JOHN BULL

Vol. XV. No. 376. SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1913. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

7769989

For meaning of this No. see Page 4 of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

£1,500
FOOTBALL PRIZE

SEE PAGE 243.

5 PER CENT. PER ANN.

INTEREST

paid on money deposited with

THE

JOHN BULL BANK

27, 28, 29 & 30, OLD JEWRY, E.C.

Current Accounts opened from £1 upwards.

JOHN BULL PEN COUPON. Value 1d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. 2/6 and loose 1d. stamp for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a John Bull Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. Additional Coupons up to 12 from "John Bull" or "Mary Bull," any dates, may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 1d. off the price. You may send 13 Coupons, and P.O. for 1/6 only and loose 1d. stamp for postage. Address Pen Dept., "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C. August 16, 1913.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

What is your Number?

Every copy of John Bull bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published in the following issue.

To each of the holders of copies of John Bull *of specified date*, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following correct claims have been received:—

Mr. H. J. MATHER, 132, Argyle Street, St. Helens. July 26th. No. 248,885.

Mr. J. PENN, Weights and Measures Office, Darlington. July 26th. No. 220,846.

Mr WILLIAM WALKER, 111, Allison Street, Crosshill, Glasgow. July 19th. No. 580,145.

Mr. W. J. SOUTHERN, 1,631, Victoria Avenue, Regina, Sask. May 24th. No. 381,250.

Mr. MORGAN BENJAMIN, Ystwyth House, Ynyshir, Wales. July 26th. No. 640,114.

Mr. F. B. SCARRIATT, 112, Boughy Road, Stoke-on-Trent. July 26th. No. 130,010.

Mr. R. SPENDIFF, 34, Saxon Road, Faversham, Kent. July 19th. No. 666,333.

Mr. WM. DODD, 66, Tower Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. July 19th. No. 735,655.

R. MALLINSON, 14, Everett Street, West Hartlepool. July 19th. No. 193,357.

WALTER TRAVILL, 14, Cartmell Terrace, Hope Town, Darlington. July 12th. No. 542,664.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of August 9th:—

021971	189855	346919	544261	742997
024760	197230	363918	576310	779404
030896	222515	382023	581263	804929
055227	245194	423022	594934	848414
074483	255037	426734	601734	866935
101677	262141	448702	641926	911537
109037	274603	468178	672801	945186
131264	276588	500595	690861	967063
157860	322136	508684	715440	A097421
178801	326733	525275	725275	A101315

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

The Fifty Numbers in Respect of this Week will be Announced in our Next Issue (Published August 20th).

FOOTBALL COMPETITION. No. 1.

SEE PAGE 243

"JOHN BULL" ENTRANCE FORM.

Matches to be played Saturday, September 6.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Derby County	v.	Sheffield United
Bradford City	v.	Aston Villa
Sunderland	v.	Newcastle United
Everton	v.	Preston N.E.
W. Bromwich A.	v.	Burnley
Bolton Wanderers	v.	Oldham Athletic
Chelsea	v.	Tottenham Hotspur
Blackpool	v.	Hull City
Clapton Orient	v.	Fulham
Grimsby Town	v.	Notts County
Lincoln City	v.	Barnsley
Notts Forest	v.	Wolverhampton W.
West Ham United	v.	Swindon
Southampton	v.	Exeter City
Reading	v.	Millwall
Crystal Palace	v.	Portsmouth
Coventry	v.	Brighton & Hove
Watford	v.	Southend
Norwich City	v.	Northampton
Gillingham	v.	Q. P. Rangers

I enter "JOHN BULL" Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut,

READ RULES CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form attached cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "**JOHN BULL,**" **25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.,** mark envelope, in top left-hand corner, **Football Competition No. 1,** so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, September 5th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The First Prize £1,500 will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on September 6th. In the event of no entrance form being received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £300 will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows the most correct results short of the full number. In addition £150 will be paid to the sender of the Entrance Form containing the next highest number of correct forecasts. Further we shall award to every competitor forecasting 16 or more results correctly a season ticket to any football ground the competitor may select. Winners of these special prizes have the option of receiving the cash value of the ticket. In addition, £100 cash will be awarded to the lady sending the most correct forecasts on a mauve coupon taken from "Mary Bull." (This is a contingent prize and will not be awarded should a mauve coupon win the £1,500, the £300 or the £150 prizes.)

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition, the First Prize of £1,500, or the Contingent Prizes of £300 and £150, as well as the special £100 Mauve Coupon prize for ladies, will be [illegible]ded.

[illegible]on bearing a Scottish address can be accepted.

[illegible]OSING DATE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XV. No. 376. Week ending Saturday, August 16th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for AUGUST 9th, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number 128,472.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

The Wish and the Thought.

We are loth to credit the statement of the *Daily News* that our young friend Masterman is shortly to be admitted to the Cabinet. First of all, we very much doubt whether the Prime Minister—even to oblige Mr. Lloyd George, whose faithful henchman Mr. Masterman has been—would welcome the advent of his saponaceous subordinate into the inner Council Chamber of the Government; and, secondly, we are quite certain that, after the shock of the last contest there, the Ministerial Whips would not relish another by-election in Bethnal Green. Besides, it would surely be a tactical error, in view of recent controversies, to bring formally in a notorious whitewasher!

Likely Changes.

Much more likely changes are the promotion of Mr. Herbert Samuel from the Postmaster-Generalship to a more dignified post, the "elevation" of Mr. Sydney Buxton, and, as already announced by us, the "retirement" from the Irish Office of Mr. Birrell, who has been the great outstanding failure of the Ministry—putting aside such minor lights as J. M. Robertson, McKinnon Wood and the Acland and Trevelyan boys. We do not expect to see Mr. Burns interfered with; nor can we imagine any other hole which he would fit. But there may be a job for Ramsay Macdonald, who, as the game is played, has well earned it.

The Newest Style.

Apropos of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's recent gibe at the alleged intellectual and other infirmities of Lord Northbourne, and the kindly advice to his lordship not to get too near the fire when the fatted calf is being roasted, lest there be an unhappy and painful mistake in the victim of that ceremony, why did not somebody in the Chancellor's confidence—for these "extempores" are always well rehearsed—remind him that the Radicals thought very highly of Lord Northbourne's capacities when (prior to succeeding his father as a peer of the realm and a perpetual legislator) he sat in the House of Commons as a Liberal member for twenty-one years? Oh, for a Business Secretary!

"Democracy."

The "people" of Britain—meaning a small fraction of the adult male population—elect 670 members to the House of Commons. On the third reading of the Mental Deficiency Bill only 183 of these—considerably less than a third—took the trouble to vote at all. But the Bill was duly passed, and it will, in due course, be thrown at the heads of the peers as the "considered judgment of the Commons of England," and should their noble lordships allow it to pass, it will doubtless be acclaimed as "the will of the people," registered by "the free Parliament of a democratic nation." Isn't it a lovely game?

The "Queenie Gerald" Case.

Without in any way associating ourselves with the prurient desire of Mr. Keir Hardie and his friends to dive into the diary of this notorious woman—whoever she may really be—may we be permitted to ask whether there is any foundation for the rumour, which has reached us from more than one source, to the effect that she has recently been seen in various parts of the West-end of London? Can it be that she, too, adopted the hunger-strike?

A Query?

Is it the fact that in the case of several recent railway accidents there happened to be an Inspector on the engine at the time; and, if so, had the presence of these officials any deterrent effect upon the coolness of mind and instinctive resourcefulness which would otherwise have been exercised by the drivers? We have our reasons for asking these questions.

Kicking Off.

Despite Lord Loreburn's "lollipops" and Mr. Hayes-Fisher's "fiddlesticks," it will be observed that we are again busy with one of our mammoth football competitions—both the amount and the variety of the prizes offered constituting yet another record. Full particulars will be found on page 243. Go in and win—and to Jericho with jangling Jeremiahs!

Our First Great New-Season Football Contest begins this week. See page 243.

Things Legal.

The Courts are "up" for the Long Vacation, and scores of anxious litigants, already worn with weary waiting, must possess their souls with what patience they may, buoyed up by the grateful knowledge that his Majesty's judges are enjoying royal repose. A Business Government would devise some sane scheme for "resting" the judges by rota, thus materially shortening the actual "vacation" of the Courts. The closing weeks of the legal sittings have provided a bountiful crop of *causes célèbre* in the Divorce Division and elsewhere—a noticeable feature of recent matrimonial suits having been the prevalence of suggestions of "collusion." The readiness with which disillusioned men and women will swear to guilt of which their consciences acquit them is a sinister commentary upon our marriage laws.

Mr. Samuel, Please!

The ways of the Post Office are fearfully wondrous, and past all understanding. St. Dominick is a prosperous and fairly populous Cornish parish, the centre of a thriving agricultural and fruit-farming district. There is a promising tin mine in the immediate vicinity, which it is expected will soon be in full working. Postal facilities, however, are of the most primitive order, there being but one collection and one delivery a day. Despite emphatic representations from the locality, the Postmaster General, through his subordinates, has steadily refused to move in the matter, and many local farmers and fruit dealers have suffered severe loss through the inadequacy of the service. The single delivery is at 7.30 a.m., and business communications arriving after this time are "held up" till the next morning, while letters posted in the parish after 5.10 p.m. lie in the boxes till the evening of the following day. Such a state of affairs is a scandal, and a cruel hardship to local traders. We urge the P.M.G. to give the matter his personal attention.

An Up-to-Date Crime.

Mr. C. W. Allen, a Leicester hairdresser and tobacconist, was recently "in trouble with the police." At about half-past eight one evening he sent his son, aged 13, to a shop in the town and directed him to call on his way home at a wholesale tobacconist's to fetch a parcel. While carrying the package the lad encountered a policeman, who evinced an abnormal curiosity as to its contents. On learning that it contained tobacco the vigilant constable took the boy's name and address. In due course the father was summoned to the local police court to answer a charge of "employing his son, George Allen, in connection with his shop after the hour of 8 p.m." He was ordered to pay the costs of the prosecution—since when he has been pondering the beauties of up-to-date "social" laws, and saying a few pointed things about the old women who make them. Wherein he has much reason.

A Kindly Cadi.

We raise our hat to Mr. P. W. Atkin, the Salford Stipendiary. This gentleman recently had occasion to fine a man five shillings for some trivial offence, and the culprit was given seven days to pay. At the end of the week he appeared at the Police Court and declared that he had been unable to find the money, and would therefore undergo the three days' imprisonment which had been awarded "in the alternative." The learned cadi, however, would not hear of this solution of the difficulty, and promptly paid the fine himself "rather than allow an honest man to go to gaol." Salford should be proud of its magistrate. May his shadow never grow less!

Three Brutes and an Ass.

The three Lambeth labourers sentenced to twenty-one days' imprisonment for ill-treating a donkey are well served. They took their families for a drive in a coster's barrow—a load of three men, three women, and several children, to be hauled a great distance by the poor beast. "As the donkey was dragging the the load along Merton Road, Wandsworth, it was kicked from behind and struck continuously with the butt end of a whip," this brutality being prolonged for 200 yards. Our observation leads us to the belief that cruelty to animals in the streets is on the increase. It is too often a case, not how much a horse or an ass can pull, but how much the vehicle behind it will hold, and, with its tongue hanging out, the poor beast is too often seen being whipped uphill to speed it with its scandalous load. At this time of the year especially, the ill-treatment of beach donkeys is continuous. Ill-fed and ill-conditioned, they are beaten and prodded all day long. The worst of it is that holiday-makers seem callous to what these poor animals suffer. The more they are prodded and the harder they are beaten the more the crowd laugh. What a pity it is that the rods in this world are so often put in pickle for the wrong backs!

The Point of View.

The Court of Criminal Appeal has reviewed the case of William Klare, the German hunchback spy, who was recently convicted and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. The judges held that there was no valid ground of appeal and that the sentence was a perfectly proper one. Meanwhile, we learn that Lieutenant Bertrand Stewart, who was convicted of espionage in Germany, imprisoned in a fortress, and subsequently released by the clemency of the Kaiser, has been promoted to a captaincy in the West Kent (Queen's Own) Yeomanry Territorials. But, of course, Lieutenant Bertrand's conviction was a "miscarriage of justice"—no Englishman ever spies—and Klare may be smothered with honours when he gets back to Kiel.

"The Child and the Beast."

Information since to hand serves to explain the leniency shown by the North London Magistrate to the postman, Raine, who was recently "bound over" on a charge of indecently assaulting a five year old girl. The act complained of appears to have been of a much less serious character than was at first feared, and it is perhaps doubtful if there was indecent intent. In these circumstances, the magistrate thought fit to eliminate the element of "indecency" from the charge, and Raine was convicted of a "common" assault, the Bench being thus enabled to adopt a lenient course. In fairness to Raine, whose case is under consideration by the Comptroller of the Post Office, we gladly publish the full facts.

Woe is Us!

Our "Weekly Cinema" artist recently hit off Russia's refusal to assist the Bulgarian arms, and the moral was pointed in a neat "Bull-doggerel" rhyme. A St. Petersburg reader now shows us that we have incurred the dire displeasure of the Russian authorities. He returns us the page in question as it reached his hands. The offending picture and verse are effectually "blacked out"—by order of the Czar! Had we been more directly amenable to the jurisdiction of the Press censor, it might have gone hard with us. As it is, we hereby inform His High and Excellent Mightiness, whoever he may be, that we have despatched to our correspondent a nice clean copy inside an envelope. Knowinvitch he can Popoff.

The Final CRICKET Coupon will be found on page 244.

A Word to Salford.

We trust that the "powers that be" in the Borough of Salford have read and pondered the reports of the inquest recently held upon the body of Mary Cannon. Dr. Alex. Fraser deposed that he visited the woman at 11.30 a.m. on June 30th, and at once wrote to the Relieving Officer requesting her immediate removal to the hospital and emphasising the urgency of the case. At 8.30 p.m. on the same day the doctor again called at the house, to find that the woman had just left in the ambulance, it having taken the Poor Law authorities something like twelve hours to respond to his urgent appeal. By this time she had given birth to twins, and was in a dying condition. Next morning she and the two children were dead. The Relieving Officer explained that it was "customary" to require a Poor Law medical officer to visit patients before their removal to the infirmary, even though the removal were ordered by a competent practitioner—a peculiarly stupid piece of red tape which may have cost many lives. Scarcely more tolerable is the circumstance disclosed by the doctor that there is a charge for the police ambulance, and that both medical men and patients are thus deterred from calling it up even in serious emergencies. All of which is a scandal and a reproach.

We Wonder Why.

Some prisoners at Colwyn Bay recently had a lucky escape. The police officer at whose instance they were summoned failed to appear in support of his accusations, it being stated that he had resigned from the force. In these circumstances, the magistrates were fain to discharge the accused, although two of them had pleaded guilty by post. "The officer might have been subpœnaed," remarked one of the justices, "but even then we could not compel him to speak, because he is no longer our officer. I wonder what would have happened if these cases had been of a serious character?" We also wonder. Moreover, we had a notion that means to unloose the tongue of a witness "mute of malice" were within the terrors of the law. But why was the missing constable expected to be tongue-tied, and why was his retirement so inopportunely timed?

Crowborough's Consideration.

The Parish Council at Crowborough have given orders for the alteration of a stile recently erected, owing to the fact that ladies wearing hobble skirts cannot get over it. This is under-estimating the agility of the fairer sex. We have never yet seen the stile that a determined modern woman could not mount, whatever the fashion of her attire. The woman of to-day is wisely no longer ashamed of her legs, and is not so grudging in the display of them as in Victorian times, when the crinoline and a brisk wind disclosed bifurcated lingerie of a painfully severe cut, reaching nearly to the ankles. Thank heaven those days are done, and the graceful female limb may be admired by the artistic masculine eye without any *arrière pensée*.

Councillors and Cinemas.

The Corporation of the City of Cork seems to be badly infected with the Sabbatarian bacillus. In renewing a batch of licences, the Council has inserted a clause absolutely prohibiting performances on the first day of the week, and the inhabitants will thus be deprived of an innocent Sunday recreation which they have hitherto enjoyed and appreciated. The decision of the Corporation appears to have been unexpected, and it will work serious hardship to several of the cinema proprietors, who are understood to have signed contracts for the hire of Sunday films up to the end of the present year. Vested interests, however legitimate, receive short shrift at the hands of prejudiced pietarians.

Faversham Footlers.

The civic fathers of Faversham are in a parlous plight with so many bye-laws that they don't know what to do. Scarce a week passes without an unseemly wrangle in the Council Chamber as to whether a particular local enactment shall be enforced "with the utmost rigour," or "honoured in the breach." Quite recently we commented upon the sin of Alderman Cremer, who with impunity erected a fruit lodge which was a perfect monument of broken regulations; and now a motor firm have actually set up a garage without even submitting the plans to the Borough Surveyor, who appears to beguile his leisure by calmly watching the erection of unauthorised buildings. In the fullness of time, this amiable Brer Rabbit reported to his municipal masters that "the building was up"—and, of course, up all wrong. What was to be done? "Make them pull it down again," murmured a stickler for the bye-laws, but the suggestion was of course unthinkable. It was at length decided to invite the owners of the garage to "explain" their infraction of the Council's building rules. We suggest that the worthy Councillors would save themselves a whole lot of bother by instructing their Surveyor to "survey"—failing which, they should make a big bonfire of their rules and regulations to amuse the infant population on the fifth of November, or on April 1st.

A Parson—and a Brute.

The Rev. George Mitchell is engaged in spreading the gospel of loving kindness amid the denizens of South Africa, where he is doubtless a "powerful means of grace" and a terror to the ungodly. The holy man was recently annoyed by a cat, and in a moment of anger he determined that the animal must die. He first attempted to drown it, but without success. He then threw it upon the ground and thrust a garden prong through its body. According to the evidence of credible witnesses, the poor creature remained in this hapless condition for half an hour, alive, and shrieking with pain. At the end of this period—finding that the cat, with wanton perversity, continued to live—the reverend brute amused himself by carrying it round the garden on the end of the prong and then trying to poke it off with a spade. For these devilries, the Acting Magistrate at Kimberley thought a fine of a sovereign an adequate penalty, having regard to the "disgrace" involved in a criminal prosecution! We would have made him chant the whole Litany while we jabbed him in a tender part with the "business" end of his own prong.

Metaphor and Mind.

John Davitt, an unlicensed pedlar of "advanced" views, recently appeared before the Dartford Magistrates, and was remanded to Maidstone Gaol. While in prison, he remarked to the doctor that "society was so constructed that many men, figuratively speaking, were broken on the wheel of life, and were as sacrificial goats." Thereupon the startled medico seems to have concluded that the prisoner was "wanting in his intellects," and upon his next appearance before the Bench, Davitt was duly reported to be insane. The man's demeanour in the dock appears to have been quite normal, but the Prison Doctor's report was accepted without reserve, and Davitt was committed to an asylum—his very reasonable application for a proper medical examination was curtly refused. It certainly appears that the poor fellow has been "jockeyed" out of his liberty. If mixed and lurid metaphors are evidence of dangerous insanity, then scores of writers and orators—generally considered intelligent—should be "certified" without delay.

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page ii. of cover.

Cheeseparing at East Ham.

We gather that the Borough Councillors of East Ham are busily engaged in spoiling a good ship for the sake of the proverbial "ha'porth of tar." A new fire station is in course of erection, and it appears that, while the façade of the edifice is likely to be "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever," this external comeliness has been attained at the cost of internal convenience. The place seems to be so constructed that there will be no proper drill-yard for the men, while horses returning from a "call" will have to be unharnessed in the road for want of space at the rear of the premises. Moreover, the proposed residential accommodation seems to be totally inadequate. There are ten firemen upon the regular staff, with twenty-seven children among them, and it is proposed to squeeze the whole lot into eight tiny flats, where they will be "cribbed, cabined, and confined" in a way which will make it physically impossible for them to get out in a hurry. We imagine that a spirit of false economy has dictated the erection of so unsuitable a building, and we trust the Council may be brought to realise the futility of their "penny wise" policy—before it is too late.

The Bitter Tale of the West.

James Dillon and Robert Scott, believed the "Great Emigration Lie," and took ship to Canada in search of fortune. Dillon obtained temporary employment, but was speedily "cleared out," to make room for a younger man, while Scott entirely failed to obtain a situation—foreigners being preferred to Britishers on the South Canadian farms. Bitterly disillusioned and utterly destitute, the two men stowed themselves away on a home-bound Allan liner, and on their arrival at Glasgow were handed over to the police. Dillon had worked his passage back, but he was nevertheless fined £3, with the alternative of 20 days' imprisonment. We hold that the sentence was grossly unjust, and the action of the shipping authorities, in first availing themselves of the man's services and then prosecuting him, is too despicable for words. Scott was fined £5 with 30 days' imprisonment in default. Both men are penniless and must expiate their misfortune in gaol.

Civic Cadgers.

The Lewisham Borough Council, at a recent session, accepted a tender for "laying a parquetry flooring of a panel pattern with wide border, in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall," at a cost of £148. The Mayor obligingly explained that the new floor would enable him to give councillors, their families and their friends "the opportunity of enjoying a dance on the floor of the Chamber," after which there was, of course, little doubt as to the desirability of the innovation. The Council subsequently considered a report of the Libraries Committee, recommending certain modest increases in the salaries of the staff. By this time, however, the tide had turned in the direction of retrenchment, and the proposed increments—which would have added no charge to the rates—were vetoed by an overwhelming majority. Having thus vindicated the sacred principles of economy, the worthy fathers of the borough may now feel justified in voting themselves a billiard room as an appropriate addition to the amenities of civic life.

Absent-Minded?

Is the panel system making medical practitioners absent-minded? A little while ago a young lady consulted a Birmingham panel doctor for rheumatism in the leg. Whether the doctor was thinking of a consumptive patient who had just gone or one who was next to arrive is not stated, but "Yes," he said, "certainly. Open your blouse, please."

Choleric Councillors.

Christendom once had two Popes, and it appears not unlikely that the parish of Stroud may soon boast two Assistant Overseers, instead of one as by law established. The present holder of the office will retire in September next, and the Board of Guardians are already in communication with the L.G.B., anent the appointment of his successor. But the Parish Council at their last meeting claimed the right to fill the post, without reference to the action of the Guardians, and they determined to advertise it forthwith in the local press. The worthy Councillors were a trifle hampered by the fact that they had received no official intimation of the impending vacancy, but the Chairman claimed to know all about it and overruled any objection upon this score. The question of salary was a further source of difficulty, the Councillors being apparently without a notion as to the appropriate figure. These obstacles, however, have been overcome, and the advertisement has gone forth. For the guidance of intending applicants, we may perhaps be permitted to hint that, judging from the acrimonious tone of their debates, the Councillors of Stroud must be a bad tempered body of men.

Maudlin Magistrates.

The ancient town of Southampton is possessed of as bright a sample of the Great Unpaid as is to be found around our sunny shores. A man was recently charged with a violent and brutal assault. It was alleged that he had battered a fellow-lodger about the head with a poker in such a way as to endanger his life. There was ample *prima facie* evidence of guilt. The police doctor deposed that the unhappy victim was suffering from two extensive wounds on the top of the head and one on the forehead, all of which had to be stitched. The injuries, he said, were dangerous and could only have been produced by great force. As against this testimony, there was no vestige of evidence in the prisoner's favour, but the local Shallows first reduced the charge to one of common assault, and subsequently—after a discussion behind closed doors—discharged the man, Sir James Lemon desiring to be recorded as dissenting from the decision of the Bench. Is not it about time Southampton had a Stipendiary? What about Sir James Lemon for the job?

Publican and Policeman.

Mr. Alfred Guenigault, licensee of the "Black Swan," Hertford, will not in future be in too much of a hurry to call a policeman. A number of navvies recently visited his house, several of whom were in a slightly "elevated" condition, one of them being so "far gone" that the landlord thought it undesirable to permit him to remain. He accordingly went into the street and enlisted the aid of P.C. Williamson, who summarily ejected the man from the premises. By way of killing two birds with one stone, the active officer seems to have taken it upon himself to report the landlord for "permitting drunkenness," and Mr. Guenigault was subsequently fined two pounds, with heavy costs, by the Hertford Bench. There does not appear to have been one scintilla of evidence in support of the charge. To convict a publican of "permitting drunkenness" on the sole testimony of a policeman whom he had called in to eject the drunkard, is a choice sample of the unconscious humour of the Great Unpaid.

The Simple Hindoo.

The following is an extract from "Travel Pictures," by Sir Bhawani Singh, apropos of a visit to the House of Commons: "I could not help noticing that Members were not always attentive to the speeches, and I wondered how, under these circumstances, they knew which way to vote"!

£1,500 for Easy Football Forecasts. New Skill Contest. See page 243.

Pleasure—and Peril.

Surely the President of the Board of Trade must be aware that the pleasure vessels plying around the coast are still grossly under-equipped with lifeboat accommodation. For instance, there are but two lifeboats, carrying comfortably no more than 60 persons, even now on the *Belle*, the General Steam Navigation and the New Palace steamers, which go out of sight of land with decks swarming with holiday-makers, though it would be perfectly easy to provide a fairly adequate number of boats—but, in that case, of course, rather fewer passengers could be carried. If a grave accident happens—as it conceivably may—the *Princess Alice* disaster will be quite over-shadowed. Has Mr. Buxton forgotten that remarkable Return we were successful in obtaining two years ago?

Of Your Charity.

The General Purposes Committee of the City of Sheffield are much concerned at the number of blind and lame mendicants soliciting alms in their streets, and they have sternly resolved to "put 'em down." A more humane course would be to find some shelter for these helpless ones, apart alike from the forbidding walls of the workhouse and the gutters of the city.

In Holiday Mood!

Mr. Harcourt, Colonial Secretary, proposes to breed bob-white quails for despatch to the cotton-growing colonies for the purpose of keeping in check the depredations of the cotton boll weevil. Meanwhile, the Opposition are hard at work trying to produce ministerial quails of another breed. Do you cotton?

The Week's "Chestnut."

DISTINGUISHED GUEST (to Prison Governor): "Sorry to complain—you've been so kind—but couldn't you get the Librarian to give me something else to read? I only get 'To-be-Continued' tales, and I'm to be hanged on Monday!"

OUR FOURTH GREAT CRICKET COMPETITION.

LADY WINS £125—A CLOSE CONTEST.

The fair sex again shows up well in this sporting event, the **£150** PRIZE *for the nearest forecast being divided between*

Mrs. PARSONS,
"The Anchorage," Albert Road, Deal,

and

Mr. S. SAUNDERS,
16, Park View, Far Cotton, Northampton,

who each gave 18 *results correctly. The former receives, in addition, the* **£50** *offered for the most correct coupon cut from "Mary Bull." Mrs. Parsons, therefore, receives* **£125.**

Four competitors sent in coupons containing 17 *correct results, and thus share the* **£75** PRIZE, *viz.*:—

Mr. G. SPARLING,
58, Martin Street, Upperthorpe, Sheffield.

Mr. R. G. MEADOWS,
19, James Street, Westbourne Terr., London, W.

Mr. HARRY LEE,
9, St. Peter's Square, Leeds.

Mr. J. GLEAVE,
78, Wellington Street, Kettering.

Readers and competitors will be interested to know that about 20 *managed to give correct forecasts of* 16 *matches.*

Cricket "wind-up" Contest.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.]

For the following advertisement in the "Bazaar, Exchange and Mart": RECENTLY KILLED, *perfectly* QUIET, *healthy, hornless nanny, gives nearly quart daily,"*

MR. ROLLS (Litlington, Cambs),
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in the Programme of the Kinsdale Athletic Society Sports, that there will be "No SECOND *Prize unless* TWO *compete,"*

MR. M. SLATTERY (Hon. Secretary),
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in the Orders issued to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, that: "BAGGAGE INCLUDING MARRIED FAMILIES, *will be loaded at* 3.30,"

LIEUT. F. B. FOLLETT,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Manchester Guardian": "Young, MAN, *smart, wanted, to* TRAVEL TO MANCHESTER IN SKIRTS, BLOUSES, OVERALLS, ETC.,"

"G. 156" (*"Manchester Guardian"* Office)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the statement that: "We are SORRY *to record that the accident which befell little Doris Evans was the* ONLY UNFORTUNATE *accident in the day's proceedings,"*

ST. DAVID'S (CARMARTHEN) PARISH MAGAZINE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating (according to "The Londonderry Sentinel") that: "They withstood the siege (of 1689) *in order to* HAND DOWN *their birthright to their* ANCESTORS, *who are* YOU,"

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "In unknown depths forms of life MAY SURVIVE *that have been* EXTINCT *for many a long age,"*

THE MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For announcing that at the "Arcadia, Bray, High-Class Vaudeville" will be given "*ONCE DAILY *at* 3.30 AND 7.45,"

THE DUBLIN EVENING MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "The following 'round the world' rush in THIRTY-SIX DAYS TEN HOURS AND SIX MINUTES *could be made* DURING THE PRESENT MONTH *by anyone so inclined,"*

THE LIVERPOOL ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing two "photographs of H.M.S. 'Active,' the first depicting the vessel as having ONE *mast and the second as possessing* TWO,"

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following "back-handed compliment," printed beneath a photograph of the Royal Family: "We do not think our readers are any MORE *tired of seeing this happy family than we are,"*

THE CHRISTIAN AGE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. *to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."*

Final Coupon on page 244.

UNCONVENTIONAL THOUGHTS.

By the Editor.

[*The views expressed in these articles represent the unsettled personal convictions of the Editor, as distinguished from the settled policy of this journal; they are, therefore, written in the first person—(very) singular.*]

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Life a Gamble.

So let us look into it. What is Life itself but a huge gamble? The moment you are born you take the odds—first, that you have not inherited the faults and ailments of your parents; next, that your mother and your nurse, between them, will not "do you in"; next, that when you grow up you will not be beaten by Brown or Jones or Robinson or Smith in whatever "line" you may adopt, or may be pitchforked into; next, that you may not, despite all your precautions, contract some dire disease or be run over by a motor 'bus; and, finally, that, all being well, you may not be "called to another world" before you are quite ready. And so you insure your life—the greatest gamble of all!

Different Forms of Gambling.

Of course, in the opinion of most people, gambling consists mainly of betting—chiefly because it is the only form of the pastime open to the common people. And, therefore, it is wicked. If Smith, earning thirty shillings a week, thinks Craganour a faster horse than Aboyeur, or Aston Villa a better football team than Clapton Orient, and backs his opinion with a shilling, *that* is gambling. If Lord Tomnoddy, reading the City article in *The Times*, thinks Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa likely to have a big rise, and instructs his broker to buy him a thousand, *that* is speculation; and if Mr. Lloyd George is told the tale about America Marconis, and believes it, and buys a few thousands—financing them through his broker—*that* is investment. Now you see the distinction. Still, we will get back to betting. Where is there any sound authority for the dictum that it is sinful?

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Indeed, I am reminded that there is high ecclesiastical and theological authority for gambling. Once upon a time I owned an evening paper called the *Sun*—one of wily Tay Pay's cast-offs!—and we made a special feature of horse-racing and betting, in order to compete with the Radical, Nonconformist organ of Labour and Democracy, the *Star*. And it occurred to me to take a referendum amongst the Bishops and other leaders of religious thought and spiritual guidance, upon the question—"Is Betting a Sin?" I haven't the file of the paper at hand, but it may be consulted at the British Museum; and if you will take the trouble to look it up you will find, I believe, that not a single one of them answered the question with an unqualified affirmative. But there is greater authority than that. Being on a holiday, I have not my Bible by me, but I seem to remember that when Judas got into disgrace and was disowned by his brother apostles, they selected his successor by drawing lots, and that before doing so they specially invoked divine guidance in the draw. And what about poor Jonah? Didn't the crew of the vessel upon which he was travelling—I do not recall its name—after throwing the cargo overboard, cast lots to ascertain the cause of "the evil that was upon them"; and does not one of the apostles—I think it is in the Gospel according to St. Matthew—tell us that the garments of Christ were "cast for," that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Prophet?

And, coming down to more recent days, I believe you will find that lotteries were specifically sanctioned by the Pope in the eighteenth century, and that the first one ever promoted in England was conducted on the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral. Wherefore, let us clean our minds of religious cant, and recognise the godliness of gambling. And do not, dear reader, believe all the nonsense you hear about the ruin of happy homes and the wreck of happy lives. On the whole, the punter, as he is called, has a fairly good time of it. It is a trite saying in the racing world that "the public are the best judges."

There are, of course, gambles in which Chance, and Chance alone, is the deciding factor—such as Dice, Roulette or Lotteries; whilst there is a type of gambling into which both the elements of Skill and Chance enter—such as Cards or Dominoes, where a good player with a bad "hand" may at times defeat the holder of the best cards or stones, or, on the contrary, a bad player may by the chance of the deal or the draw defeat the most skilful exponent of the game. Personally, I prefer the former class of flutter. It is less laborious, and much more exciting. I do not care to have to work at play—not a bad phrase!

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I will summarise my views thus: Gambling is a natural instinct; whilst it should never be regarded as a substitute for, it may properly be treated as auxiliary to Industry; it is a delightful and exhilarating pastime, and is frequently exceedingly profitable; it is without moral taint, and possesses many valuable moral qualities; it is an integral and recognised feature of our social, religious and commercial life; it is useful, harmless, and ought not to be abolished.

Here endeth the fifth Thought.

THE SLAVE DEALERS.

ANOTHER GROSS REFORMATORY SCANDAL.

In October, 1909, John Banwell, of Holloway, a twelve-year old boy, was convicted of begging, and sent to the Highbury Reformatory School, there to remain till he should reach the age of sixteen. The lad's subsequent fate is strangely similar to that of the Bristol boy whose unhappy plight formed the subject of our recent exposures. At the expiry of his term Banwell did not return home, his parents being curtly informed that a situation had been found for him upon a Welsh farm. This arrangement had been effected without the parents' knowledge or consent, the boy's father having actually arranged for him to be apprenticed at Holloway as soon as he was released.

The lad had been a fortnight in Wales when an official called upon the parents, with the disquieting information that their son had run away from the farm to which he had been sent. They were warned that should the lad succeed in making his way home, they might easily render themselves liable to a fine of £20 for "harbouring" their own son. From Wales to Holloway is a far cry, and the boy did not return home. For more than a month the parents remained in suspense, a prey to all manner of fears. Their anxiety was increased by the knowledge that the lad was of somewhat feeble mind, and thus utterly unfit to be thrown upon his own resources.

On May 23rd last the father received a letter, penned in an unfamiliar hand, but containing messages from his son. The lines are crude and childish but eloquent of unhappiness and an intense longing for home. The boy had run away from the farm to which he was first sent, tramping forty-five miles before he was "caught." He had then been sent to another farm, from which he implored his parents to fetch him. Since the receipt of this missive, Mr. Banwell has heard nothing of his boy. Communications to the address contained in the letter have been undelivered—and returned.

The father has now appealed to the Industrial School authorities, only to gather further cause for misgiving. The officials who claim the right to control the lad's movements, and who threaten the parents with pains and penalties should they tempt to influence their son, are to-day utterly ignorant and apparently careless of the lad's situation or condition. They only know that he "absconded" from the farm to which he was first attached. For the rest, he has passed beyond the limits of their official ken. Yet should his parents find the boy whom the authorities have wantonly deserted, and offer him a home—they must forfeit £20 or go to gaol in default!

The state of affairs revealed in this and similar cases to which we have directed the attention of our readers, is nothing short of a public scandal. There should be a searching and business-like inquiry into the whole administration of industrial and reformatory schools, with especial reference to the sending of time-expired youths to "indentured labour" on Welsh farms and elsewhere. Moreover, the clause of the Children Act which lends a colour of legality to the most mischievous proceedings should be instantly repealed.

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POPGUN PROSECUTION PROPERLY POOH-POOHED.

Fired by the example of their Wetherby brethren, the Derby Borough Police recently prosecuted a local shopkeeper for "selling a pistol to a person under 18 years of age"—for the sum of fourpence. The thing was, of course, a toy of quite an innocuous variety, but the Chief Constable solemnly explained that the charge was preferred under the Pistols Act of 1903, and that it was for the Bench to determine whether the popgun was "a firearm within the meaning of the Act." Wiser than the Wetherby cadis, who recently made themselves look supremely silly by fining a man for using a similar plaything without a licence, the Derby Bench very properly dismissed the summons, holding that the pistol was a toy and not a weapon. It might have been well if they had reminded their Chief of Police that such a puerile prosecution was a wanton waste of their time—and of his.

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A collector-salesman was appointed, he tells us, at a salary of 10s. a week for the first month, paying a premium of 8s. for a £25 fidelity bond with "The International Fidelity Insurance Company." Singers' receipt for the premium has the name of the assurers printed in, and as the number it bears closely approaches 25,000, it is obvious that the sewing machine people place an enormous amount of business in the way of the Insurance concern. By the way, according to the London Post Office Directory, the name of the Fidelity Company would appear to have been shorn of the words "of New Jersey, U.S.A."—an inference which is strengthened almost to certainty by the fact that "The International Fidelity Insurance Company" is not mentioned in the usual English books of reference. New Jersey is, we believe, also the headquarters of the Singer Company. It would, therefore, be interesting to know whether the two concerns are in any way connected. Our friend started his work, but at the end of five weeks was dismissed, on the ground, he understood, that it was the Company's rule to discharge any salesman-collector who did not sell a machine in the first month. He has been unable to obtain a refund of any part of the premium on the bond. The terms upon which he worked are, judging from the printed documents, those on which a great many other men are busily boosting up the Singer Company. It would seem to be a very cheap advertising plan, but it inflicts a considerable hardship upon the poor people who call round from door to door, as though their efforts may have induced a reluctant householder to purchase, when the transaction is actually completed it is usually at one of the Company's shops—where, naturally, a much greater selection of machines can be shown.

A WORD OF WARNING.

BANKERS BLIGHT CLERK'S CAREER.

Parents disposed to make bank clerks of their sons will do well to note the experience of a West London youth, who was for three years in the employ of Lloyds Bank. He was entered in the usual way as a junior clerk "on probation," and, at the end of six months, was appointed to the regular staff with a £10 increment of salary. There being no complaints of his conduct or capacity, he subsequently received two further increases of stipend. But in the third year of his service, to his utter surprise and dismay, he was curtly informed by the manager of his branch that a letter had been received from the Head Office requiring his immediate resignation. The branch manager deigned no explanation of the drastic action of his superiors.

A letter from the lad's father to the General Manager of the Bank at last elicited an "explanation." The clerk had been "requested to resign"—not to say "dismissed"—because the branch manager and an inspector had reported him utterly unfit for the duties of his office. His handwriting was so poor that it could not be employed even upon the least important work. His tastes were at variance with his calling. There was, however, no vestige of complaint against his character.

But why, in the name of common fairness, did it take the branch manager three years to find out that the boy would never make a competent clerk? Why, if he was so manifestly incapable, was he permitted to exceed his period of probation? Why, if his services were so utterly worthless, was he thrice awarded increments of salary? For three precious years he was encouraged to believe that his work was appreciated, and that a prosperous career lay before him. Then, without whisper or warning, he was summarily thrown out, just three years too late to make a proper start elsewhere. Had the lad's superiors designed to shatter his life's prospects, they could scarce have devised a surer means.

"Bullets"—the Holiday Competition. Prizes value £1,750 weekly.

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A collector-salesman was appointed, he tells us, at a salary of 10s. a week for the first month, paying a premium of 8s. for a £25 fidelity bond with "The International Fidelity Insurance Company." Singers' receipt for the premium has the name of the assurers printed in, and as the number it bears closely approaches 25,000, it is obvious that the sewing machine people place an enormous amount of business in the way of the Insurance concern. By the way, according to the London Post Office Directory, the name of the Fidelity Company would appear to have been shorn of the words "of New Jersey, U.S.A."—an inference which is strengthened almost to certainty by the fact that "The International Fidelity Insurance Company" is not mentioned in the usual English books of reference. New Jersey is, we believe, also the headquarters of the Singer Company. It would, therefore, be interesting to know whether the two concerns are in any way connected. Our friend started his work, but at the end of five weeks was dismissed, on the ground, he understood, that it was the Company's rule to discharge any salesman-collector who did not sell a machine in the first month. He has been unable to obtain a refund of any part of the premium on the bond. The terms upon which he worked are, judging from the printed documents, those on which a great many other men are busily boosting up the Singer Company. It would seem to be a very cheap advertising plan, but it inflicts a considerable hardship upon the poor people who call round from door to door, as though their efforts may have induced a reluctant householder to purchase, when the transaction is actually completed it is usually at one of the Company's shops—where, naturally, a much greater selection of machines can be shown.

A WORD OF WARNING.

BANKERS BLIGHT CLERK'S CAREER.

Parents disposed to make bank clerks of their sons will do well to note the experience of a West London youth, who was for three years in the employ of Lloyds Bank. He was entered in the usual way as a junior clerk "on probation," and, at the end of six months, was appointed to the regular staff with a £10 increment of salary. There being no complaints of his conduct or capacity, he subsequently received two further increases of stipend. But in the third year of his service, to his utter surprise and dismay, he was curtly informed by the manager of his branch that a letter had been received from the Head Office requiring his immediate resignation. The branch manager deigned no explanation of the drastic action of his superiors.

A letter from the lad's father to the General Manager of the Bank at last elicited an "explanation." The clerk had been "requested to resign"—not to say "dismissed"—because the branch manager and an inspector had reported him utterly unfit for the duties of his office. His handwriting was so poor that it could not be employed even upon the least important work. His tastes were at variance with his calling. There was, however, no vestige of complaint against his character.

But why, in the name of common fairness, did it take the branch manager three years to find out that the boy would never make a competent clerk? Why, if he was so manifestly incapable, was he permitted to exceed his period of probation? Why, if his services were so utterly worthless, was he thrice awarded increments of salary? For three precious years he was encouraged to believe that his work was appreciated, and that a prosperous career lay before him. Then, without whisper or warning, he was summarily thrown out, just three years too late to make a proper start elsewhere. Had the lad's superiors designed to shatter his life's prospects, they could scarce have devised a surer means.

"Bullets"—the Holiday Competition. Prizes value £1,750 weekly.

THE MASSACRE OF THE MASSEUSE.

THE LATE HARVEST OF OUR REVELATIONS——"FILLES DE JOIE" AND SISTERS OF TOIL.

Exactly three years ago we instructed our Special Commissioner to make a tour of the London massage establishments, with the specific object of placing before the public the facts—or so much of them as was printable—regarding those places. He visited them not as a journalist seeking information, but as a man-about-town plentifully supplied with cash, prepared to pose as suffering from rheumatism, lumbago, gout and any other ailment which massage is supposed to benefit. The series of articles which we were consequently able to publish caused quite a sensation, and in due course other journals followed in our tracks. A play, also, was founded on our revelations, and is still running in the provinces, while cinematograph firms utilised our information to recount—though usually in exaggerated style—some of our stories of these dens. The immediate outcome of our articles was that most of the massage advertisements were refused insertion in the London dailies—only those guaranteed by a medical man being allowed to appear—while a member of the London County Council called at Long Acre in order to obtain detailed evidence, with a view to further legislation. To say that he was shocked with the unbowdlerised statement which we placed before him would not be doing his feelings justice—he was embarrassed. This business man actually blushed—blushed that such infamies could be practised in a civilized country! After a lengthy interview he left, saying "I will never rest until these massage establishments are placed under public control." That was three years ago—and now the Public Control Committee of the London County Council is to ask Parliament to give it power to licence these establishments or to register them. Certain sections of the Press tell us that this action is brought about by the receipt of a communication from the Commissioner of Police; while Mr. Coote, the Secretary of the National Vigilance Society, is reported to have said in an interview with a representative of a Manchester newspaper, "it is owing to our efforts that the present recommendation has been brought forward." While we are not disposed to quarrel as to who should have the credit of urging the authorities to take action, it is only fair to this journal—which spent hundreds of pounds in the course of its investigations—and to our Special Commissioner—who underwent a decidedly risky and unpleasant ordeal—to say that the police would never have moved had it not been for our exposures; the grandmotherly Vigilance Society could have gone on prating, and drawing in fat subscriptions, until Doomsday.

PRESENT-DAY MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS.

We do not pretend to have first-hand evidence as to how these places are run at the moment. The probability is that (as usual) repressive legislation will come when—owing to our outspokenness—the grosser evils aimed at have practically died out. However, the "parlours" are now far more numerous than they were, and it can hardly be believed that rheumatism and gout have increased in ratio, while a great crop of advertisements is again springing up in the papers. Of course, perhaps a medical practitioner has guaranteed the genuineness of everyone of them—perhaps not. Second-hand evidence, however, we have in abundance, showing that these dens still provide enormous profits for their keepers. At the present time, it may safely be said, there are close upon a thousand young girls, between the ages of 17 and 25 years, who are earning a livelihood that is shocking in its loathsomeness. It must not, however, be assumed that their pay is a princely one. While it is true that the keepers of these establishments extract from each "patient" anything from a "fiver" upwards, the "masseuses" themselves very rarely receive in wages more than 30s. a week. The question of dealing with these girls and the employment they follow is mainly an economic one, and here let us give an illustration.

THE TWO SISTERS.

Not far from Portland Road Station there is one of these pseudo massage establishments. The number of girls employed at present is unknown, but a short time ago there were eight. One of them was Scotch, aged about 20. When asked by our Special Commissioner, at the time of his investigations, why she adopted such a loathsome calling, she laughed and said, "Do you know, I do not consider it as bad as some. It is true that my work is sometimes far from congenial—but what woman's isn't?" He then suggested to her, in delicate terms, that the reference was not to her work as a masseuse, but to a much older profession—though even the massaging of any man who cared to present himself should be repugnant to a young girl. "So it is," she replied, "but not half so loathsome as the work my sister does. Would you like to know her?" The suggestion accepted, a visit was paid to a house in a mean street in Battersea. The masseuse did not stay to knock at the door. Turning the handle she walked straight in, telling her companion to follow. After going a few steps through a dark passage, she opened another door and entered a badly lighted room, containing two beds. A woman sat at the table sewing, and rocking a cradle with her foot. "My young sister," said the girl. Then, turning to the prematurely aged woman, she asked "Where's Ted?" Ted, it seemed, was the woman's husband. He had been out of work so long that he had gone on tramp to find some. Whenever he could earn a few shillings, he used to send some home in order to keep together the bodies and souls of his wife and their two children. "Poor Dolly!" said my companion, stroking her sister's cheek. On her way out the masseuse turned to the witness of this scene of suffering and asked, "Now do you think my calling more loathsome than that of my sister?" The question was not answered. The next time he saw the girl she was an inmate of a hospital. And, behold, what a change! Two years of "the life" had told its tale. Not only had her good looks vanished, but she was dying a horrible death. Our Special Commissioner's answer to her question on the stairs was then delivered—it was: "It is a thousand times preferable to be the wife of a workless man."

We shall watch with interest the progress of the Council's measure. If its result be to snatch but one poor girl from such a death as that at which we have hinted, it will be justified.

THE CHAMPIONS OF "MORALITY."

We have never posed as a champion of "morality," but what we have done—and what we hope to do in the future—is to make the Government recognise that "the oldest profession in the world" still exists in this country, and will continue to flourish in spite of any repressive legislation. Such being the case, it is obviously the duty of the authorities to confine it to some specific area, where it can be controlled. This pronouncement will, no doubt, shock the champions of "morality," who will tell us that if the Government acted on our suggestion they would be countenancing vice. Our answer is that, since the evil cannot be stopped any more than crime in general can be eliminated, it is better that it should be confined within a definite ring. We know of homes which have been wrecked through young female members becoming acquainted with women of easy virtue living in adjacent premises—so generally is the danger recognised that it is customary, before taking a house or a flat, to have very careful enquiries made as to whether any "priestesses of Venus" reside in the vicinity.

Some months ago Mr. C. H. Norman, a student of economics, wrote to the Home Secretary suggesting that a Royal Commission should be appointed to enquire into the subject. The reply he received was to the effect that no good purpose would be served by such an enquiry. We beg to differ. The whole question requires thorough thrashing out. It is useless for the champions of "morality" to imagine for a moment that, even by the registration of massage establishments, the evil will cease, though it will be a step in the right direction—namely, the registration and inspection of recognised areas. When the period of control arrives it will not only be possible to walk the streets without being accosted, but our wives and daughters will be saved from rubbing shoulders with undesirables.

PHYSICIAN, HEAL THYSELF!

REJUVENATORS REJECTED FOR A SINKING SYNDICATE.

We recently referred to a concern called "The Guaranteed Remedies Company," of Bushberry, Wolverhampton, which was advertising for spare time agents to distribute samples and book orders at a remuneration of 10s. weekly and commission—the announcements withholding the important fact that it was necessary to "prove ability" by purchasing 10s. worth of physic. We pointed out that such deceptive advertisements entailed considerable hardship upon poor out-of-work people, who could ill afford to waste postage stamps.

The appearance of this paragraph has prompted a reader to send us a batch of letters he has received from John G. Dawson, of the same address, who, by means of an advertisement, in April, 1912, induced him to pay £15 for shares in "Dawson's Rejuvenator Syndicate, capital £500." The concern was apparently never registered with limited liability, and although the promised extraordinary monthly dividend of "2s. 6d. on each £1 share" was paid for a very short time, these pleasant remittances were soon "held over" until the interest of a "large shareholder" (whose holding afterwards transpired to be 50 shares) had been disposed of—the ingenious Mr. Dawson endeavoured, without avail, to induce our correspondent to take them up. When next the silence was broken, it was by another suggestion for the provision of further capital to prolong the life of the Company—the inventor of the physic apparently disdaining his own rejuvenators. It appeared that even the £500 had never been at the disposition of the Syndicate—after the departure of the "large shareholder" the amount subscribed being but £25. Dawson, therefore, attempted to get the three shareholders to emulate the fox who had lost his tail, by putting up £5 each to advertise for more people to come into the concern!

There appears to have been considerable muddling in regard to the whole matter; for instance, Dawson speaks of the "prospectus on the strength of which shares were purchased," and refers to our friend and his companion in misfortune as "the shareholders." A threat of proceedings for the recovery of the money invested led to yet another ingenious offer from Mr. Dawson—namely, to sell the whole business, lock, stock, and barrel, for £25—out of which the shareholders "were to be paid in full." We think our correspondent is well out of the matter, and would advise him to let it drop—he might be held jointly responsible with unknown fellow-shareholder for all the liabilities.

By-the-bye, an amusing incident was that, by mistake, Dawson sent our friend a letter intended for somebody else—from which it appears that the medicine man was at one time in the turf line, and there was some unpleasantness over a £1 bet which had been lost, presumably on his tip. But, as this Protean worthy pathetically put it, "I was not to blame for the late King's horse getting beaten"!

A CRUEL CADI.

GAOL "WITHOUT THE OPTION" FOR LAD OF SIXTEEN.

Two lads, George Kinrade, aged 16, and Luigi Dixon, aged 14, were recently charged at the Barrow Police Court with the theft of a rifle. For this offence, which appears to have been rather a foolish prank than a serious lapse into crime, Kinrade was actually sentenced to one month's imprisonment without the option of a fine. Dixon was fined a sovereign. In sentencing Kinrade, the Chairman, Mr. J. Clarkson, remarked that he was sorry "to *have* to send a youth like Kinrade to prison"—a most extraordinary remark. No wonder that, upon his attention being directed to the matter, the Home Secratary ordered the lad's release, after he had been imprisoned for a fortnight. It was his first offence, and we should have held that both he and his companion might well have been bound over under the Probation of Offenders Act. A month's imprisonment for so trivial an offence, with its certain tendency to blight the whole future course of his career, was a most inhuman sentence.

At the same court, on the same day, Samuel Hill was charged with stealing seventeen ducks and assaulting the police. He was fined £2 10s

A HEDGE LAWYER.

CONFIDENTIAL AGENT'S CUNNING ADVERTISEMENT.

Mr. Charles Brown, of 13, New Oxford Street, W., advertises "confidential enquiries" for the bewitchingly modest sum of three shillings, while "free legal advice" may be had for the asking on any afternoon of the week.

Legal aid is proverbially costly, and that offer of free "lawyering" is a tempting bait. A Euston correspondent, with a grievance against his employer, called upon Brown and stated his case. The agent was of opinion that, on the facts before him, there was a good cause of action for slander, and he so advised our correspondent. He further expressed his willingness to "take the case up" for the sum of three guineas—the seductive three shillings' worth being apparently reserved for advertising purposes. Our correspondent having explained that three guineas was to him an utterly prohibitive price, it was ultimately arranged that the fee should be one guinea—two shillings down, and the balance when Brown had completed his labours. The matter was clinched by the signing of an agreement, but the agent was requested to hold the matter over for a few days, in view of a possible settlement.

Our correspondent appears to have assumed throughout that it was for legal assistance that he had agreed to pay. It is probable that many of Brown's clients have fallen into a similar error, but the man is not a solicitor, and by undertaking the work of a lawyer he would be committing a criminal offence. The advertisement of "*free* legal advice" is really a confession of his incapacity to act professionally. Our correspondent's experience is instructive. A few days after his interview with Brown, he wrote desiring him to drop the matter, and agreeing to forfeit the two shillings deposit. The agent thereupon demanded payment of the balance of the guinea agreed—not, of course, for legal costs, but for "enquiries," which were apparently of so "secret" and "confidential" a character that they might be more easily imagined than described. Brown vouchsafed no details of his operations—a safe course, in view of the fact that our correspondent had himself supplied all the needful information and that investigation was thus quite superfluous.

The moral is clear. Brown is a private enquiry agent. Of his capabilities in this direction we know little. He describes himself as an "expert on divorce trouble," and a specialist in "watching and tracing." But, however skilfully he may "watch" or "trace," he is not a lawyer, and dare not act as one. His legal advice, moreover, is probably worth—just what it costs.

CUTTING COOMBS' COMB.

A RASCAL WHO MAY HAVE OVER-REACHED HIMSELF.

Do the authorities propose to take any steps against that arch-hypocrite and humbug, E. Coombs, who has for years been receiving payment for dogs he has not delivered? We have had hundreds of complaints regarding his malpractices, the latest being from an Accrington reader, who as late as June 27th last sent the rascal two puppies, but has, of course, never received payment for them—getting instead a printed circular from Coombs's solicitor, Mr. Burleigh H. J. Dixon, of 41, High Street, Bristol, stating that the doggy dodger was winding up his business and promising payment in full by instalments, the money to be provided by the ignorant and nauseating humbug's literary work! Now, Coombs was himself sending out a similar circular within four days of receiving our Accrington correspondent's dogs, and must have known very well that he could not pay for them—indeed, for many months past he has been writing making all kinds of excuses for not fulfilling his obligations. There have naturally been many complaints to the police at Shaftesbury, whence he has been conducting his wordy and shuffling correspondence—so many, that the Chief Constable has also had to send out a circular (in which, we are glad to see, we are given the credit for stopping the rascal's nefarious career), referring inquirers to Mr. Dixon. We would suggest that defrauded persons should complain to the Chief Constable at Sherborne—Coombs's present address being at "Sidcot," Wootton Grove, in that town.

Football Season Tickets for readers. Particulars on page 243.

FEEBLE FORTUNATUSES.

A TIP TO LEWIS' DISSATISFIED CUSTOMERS.

We recently asked, after criticising its methods, whether the business carried on at 58, High Holborn, under the style of Samuel Lewis & Company (The Holborn Silk Market), Ltd., was in any way connected with the great silk emporium which a few years ago occupied premises adjacent to the picturesque old timbered houses at Holborn Bars. An inspection of the official papers at Somerset House seems to suggest that our question was justified, and that the new concern was formed to continue the old business when the financial crisis arose; for it was registered on May 18th, 1909, to adopt an agreement with Mr. Lewis Hyam Hyman, of 39, Moscow Court, Bayswater, who had himself a few days previously entered into a contract with Mr. Percy John Payne, of 3, Church Passage, Guildhall, Chartered Accountant, acquiring (on terms not stated) that gentleman's rights in "the goodwill of the business of Samuel Lewis & Company, Wholesale and Retail Mercers and General Drapers, and of and in the right and title to use the name of Samuel Lewis & Company and of The Holborn Silk Market." The Company's capital is £5,000, in 5,000 shares, and 4,000 of these were allotted to Mr. Hyman as purchase price. The only cash capital the Company apparently ever had was £201. The whole of the shares issued soon came into the hands of two persons, Samuel Lewis, of 43, Inderwick Road, Stroud Green, and William George Davey, of 43, Greenside Road, Shepherd's Bush. These two gentlemen are also the sole Directors. Considerable default was made in filing the Returns for 1912, and when these were at length lodged they bore the significant endorsement—"There was no Ordinary General Meeting in 1912."

Another reader informs us that she also sent money for silk which has never been delivered, and asks what she can do. A call at 58, High Holborn is hardly likely to prove fruitful, to judge from the "Back at 3 o'clock" placard which we found exhibited at the modest office. We would therefore suggest that personal visits should be paid to the two persons, Lewis and Davey, who own and run the concern—though we are afraid that the Company's strikingly modest purse has long been depleted—the methods of its controllers not being likely to result in the bestowal of Fortunatus's gift. After all, even the fairies require mortals to endeavour to deserve success!

JUDICIAL VAGARIES.

UNEQUAL PENALTIES FOR EQUAL CRIMES.

At the recent Birmingham Assizes Mr. Justice Atkin tried the Directors and Secretary of Lozells Investment and Building Society, a well-known Birmingham concern, for conspiracy to defraud. The jury had no hesitation in finding the prisoners guilty on every count, it being evident that a most heartless and persistent scheme of robbery had been perpetrated. The Judge imposed sentences of imprisonment varying from twelve months to six, and we are bound to suggest that these trivial penalties were quite inadequate. We are seldom disposed to complain of judicial leniency, but there is a point beyond which clemency constitutes an incitement to crime. A scheme which would standardise criminal sentences may be the one remedy, both for inadequate and excessive penalties. At present, far too much depends upon the capacity for moral indignation possessed by individual Judges—to say nothing of the conditions of their livers.

WANTED: ANOTHER CHANCE.

A carpenter, whose past character we are sorry to say bears several stains upon it, pleads for work. Upon his last conviction for stealing he promised Sir Henry Curtis Bennett that he would "go straight" for the sake of his three little children. On leaving prison, however, he had to walk the streets for a week, when, having spent on food the money raised by the pawning of his tools he, as he puts it, "lowered himself to beg." Convicted on this charge, his record was, of course, given to the magistrate, who sentenced him to a month's hard labour. Will any reader give him honest work?

WALTHAM CROSS TRADESMAN CROSS.

STRUGGLING SHOPKEEPER AND STERN STATUTE.

Mr. George McCarthy, a small general dealer at Waltham Cross, who employs no assistant, and makes but a bare living, has embarked upon a campaign of resistance to the Shops' Act, as to comply with it would reduce him to beggary. The County Council has issued an order for compulsory closing on Thursday afternoons. McCarthy refuses point-blank to comply with the Order.

He was recently summoned to the Cheshunt Police Court for "failing to close his shop for the service of customers" in the manner required by the Act, and he then stated his position with considerable force. Had he been competently advised, we think he might have successfully objected to the form of the summons against him. As a retailer of bread, meat, confectionery, and smokers' requisites, he is not required to close his shop on any half-day of the week, and the allegation upon the summons was therefore bad in law. McCarthy's actual offence appears to have consisted in the selling of a halfpenny bundle of wood, and a tiny packet of tea, for which he was fined ten shillings.

McCarthy is an ex-Army man with a good record of active service for his country, and it is surely a pity that such a man should be forced by oppressive legislation into hatred and contempt for the law. The argument that the larger traders need protection from the small general dealer is one which will scarcely hold. The poorest section of shopkeepers—those, say, who employ no assistant—might well be excluded from the operation of the Act. Let their more prosperous rivals be now a little generous and let Parliament be just.

"OH, LISTEN TO THE BAND!"

SAVAGE BREASTS UNSOOTHED BY SOFT STRAINS.

Visitors to open air resorts during the summer months greatly enjoy the beautiful music played by military bands but very few ever give a thought to the remuneration the musicians receive. The band of the 2nd Welsh Regiment was engaged recently at the Earl's Court Exhibition, and after playing seven hours a day during the whole of the week found that they were 2½d. in pocket. We do not suggest that the management of the Exhibition is to blame for this sweating—we do not know what was paid to the regimental authorities—but it is a scandal that these carefully trained men should be brought to town, worked 42 hours, and then receive remuneration which, after paying for board and lodgings, left them with but a few coppers. No wonder that the music they discoursed doesn't seem to have soothed their savage breasts!

"ARE THE MODES MORAL?"

In olden times, in various rhymes
Men praised their lady's grace,
And lyrics then by ready pen
Portrayed her charming
Face.

With stately mien, in crinoline
She stepped adown the street,
And lovers fond saw naught beyond
Her dainty little
Feet.

But now, I ween, much more is seen,
And though my modesty
Is sorely hurt to see her skirt
Cut open to her
Knee,

My truant gaze still upward strays,
Permission I must beg
To weave a verse—I might do worse—
About her shapely
Leg.

In silken hose it coyly shows,
And gives me cause to dread
That fashion's ways in modern days
Will make me lose my
Head.

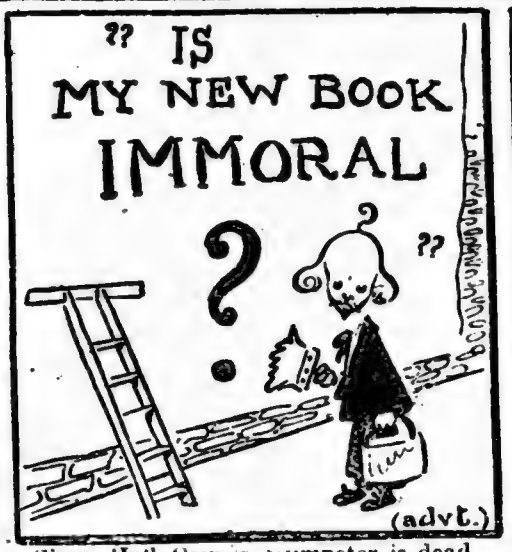
M. E. Besley.

Thousands delighted with the "John Bull" Pen. Had your's yet?

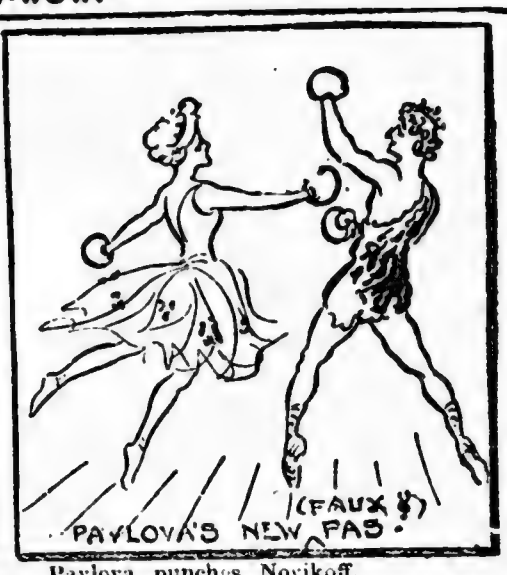
"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

The wealthy "nut" the victim is
Of mercenary chorus girls,
Who wholesale fleecing make their biz.
And trapping sons of dukes and earls.



Since Hall Caine's trumpeter is dead,
And his bill-poster, too, deceased,
He does their job himself instead,
So that his sales may be increased.



Pavlova punches Novikoff,
The Palace audience to astound;
Her partner promptly marches off,
Knocked out in but a single round!

The hen our artist has displayed,
Her owner gave a sudden shock to,
For when her egg she proudly laid
She crowed with vigour like a cock, too!

Although less drink is now consumed
And other causes fast diminish,
The human race, it seems, is doomed
To be all loonies at the finish!

In Filey Mr. Kendal dwells,
And when poor Punch's show he sees,
With wrath his manly bosom swells—
He'd like to smash it all to pieces.

TOM TIDDLER'S GROUND.

MODERN WHITTINGTONS SELLING THE SECRET OF SUCCESS.

In one of the leading daily papers has recently appeared upon several occasions the following advertisement:—

ALL Classes of Workers required in the Midland counties. Write, state qualification, if any, Manager, Information Bureau, 63 Hurst Street, Birmingham.

This might be taken as being inserted by one of the enterprising Municipal authorities which have, in recent years, established bureaus for the purpose of popularising the localities they control, and which do their best in this direction without fee or reward from those to whom they supply information. The reply which an applicant received, however, shows that the motive in this case is not so altruistic. The answer took the shape of a letter asking that a formal application should be filled in, stating the wages expected and "line of business in which you are best acquainted" (*sic*), with the addition "Please receive herewith 5s. for information to hand which covers, also, Fuller Details and particulars that may prove helpful to me in getting fixed-up in the Midlands. If we are successful in finding you a situation at the salary you ask, our commission is half the first week's salary. . . . The 5s. remittance above for information (must accompany this form) as to the best town for your particular line."

This extraordinary jumble (the Midland Counties Bureau of course does not send the applicant the 5s.—the boot is sought to be placed on the other leg) is on a par with the amazing document which accompanies it—purporting to give the career of a modern Dick Whittington who, however, when he turned his back on London did not retrace his steps. This individual—who writes in the first person, but does not give his name—started his interesting business life at the early age of thirteen. We are given the most intimate details of his career down to the very day when looking for employment, a Cornishman—with an unusual lack of local patriotism—was enthusiastic on the subject of the Midlands. Skipping a dozen lines descriptive of a cheap half-day trip to Birmingham, we are told that, arrived there, "the cornish friend commenced same day in his own particular line"; while our prosy author got "a very decent job at a very good wage," and down to the day of taking all and sundry into his confidence has never been out of employment. Some very bold statements are made, such as: "The worker barely exists in London. Compare the cost of living in the Midlands with the cost of living in London, and bear in mind at the same time the wage rate is far better here." Now, we were always under the impression that, generally speaking, the contrary was the fact—that the rate of wages in the Midlands is considerably lower than in London (though house rent is a little cheaper), and that it is mainly for this reason that many industries are leaving the banks of the Thames and going North. Most of these concerns take their principal workmen with them, so local labour is not much benefited.

The "information" dodge has been worked to death so far as those in search of posts on board ship are concerned—and we hope none of our readers will send money to the illiterate people who conduct this farcical concern.

In the streets of none of the Midland towns can gold and silver be picked up in the simple way suggested.

The Final CRICKET Coupon will be found on page 244.

A MOMENTOUS JUDGMENT.

RAILWAY COMPANY EVADES COMPENSATION CLAIM.

The refusal of the Court of Appeal to sanction a compensation award to the dependents of the late Edwin Dyhouse, of Newport, an engine-driver in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, who was killed on the line—has aroused much feeling in railway circles, and is, moreover, of considerable general interest. The Railway Company appealed from a decision of the Swansea County Court Judge, who had been convinced of the justice and legality of the dependents' claim.

The facts are simple. On the day of the fatal accident Dyhouse was in charge of an engine travelling from Llanelly to Swansea. While waiting for the signal to proceed, he got down from his footplate on to the railway track—no one knew why. About a quarter of an hour later he was picked up in a dying condition, having been run over by a light engine upon another line.

In these circumstances, the County Court Judge held that Dyhouse had met his death by an accident "arising out of and in the course of his employment" in such a way as to entitle his relatives to an award under the Workmen's Compensation Act. He found that Dyhouse had left the footplate "for some unexplained reason." Had he left the engine unnecessarily or improperly he would not have been entitled to compensation, but there were doubtless many circumstances in which a driver might properly leave his footplate.

The Lords Justices of Appeal appear to have taken a view diametrically opposed to that of the County Court Judge. They scouted the notion that the dependents should, as it were, be given the benefit of the doubt. "The applicants," said the Master of the Rolls, "the dependents, here have the burden of proof upon them to show that his death arose 'out of, and in the course of,' his employment." Such "proof" was manifestly unattainable. It was a sheer impossibility for the dependents to show with certitude that the deceased had left his engine for a proper purpose. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the County Court Judge "presumed" that the driver had acted with propriety. The Appeal Judges would admit no such presumption. They found that the dependents had not proved their claim, and the award of the County Court Judge was accordingly set aside.

Such a decision, emanating from so exalted a tribunal, is of the most far-reaching importance. The proper interpretation of the phrase "arising out o. and in the course of" employment, has formed the subject of acute legal controversy from the moment that the Workmen's Compensation Act came into operation. Some judges have construed it so liberally as to cover all accidents which would not have overtaken a man but for his employment, while others have interpreted the law with much greater reserve. The Court of Appeal, by throwing the whole onus of proof upon applicants, has materially restricted the operation of the Act. We fear that such an interpretation of the law is calculated to work widespread injustice.

PROFITS ON COMMUTED PENSIONS.

After serving twenty-nine years in the Army, one of our soldier readers was awarded a pension of 2s. 3d. a day. Requiring a sum of ready money, he commuted part of the pension, the amount to be repaid within ten years at the rate of 6d. a week. At the expiration of the ten years, the money advanced having been paid back, he naturally expected that the 6d. a week would be restored to his pension. But he reckoned without the War Office, who, in reply to a letter of protest, informed the old soldier that when part of a pension was commuted it was looked upon as "a game of chance" whether the pensioner lived or died. Our correspondent is only sixty-four, and, being hale and strong, reasonably looks forward to many more years of life. Should he live another ten years the War Office will have made more than 100 per cent. profit on the small advance made to him. Surely the War Office should be above usury, and decline to batten on the Nation's veterans!

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCLIX.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

POMP AND POVERTY.

When the King recently passed through the decorated streets of Burnley one of his subjects and her children stood on the pavement, the woman with a tear in her eye and a lump in her throat. No doubt it was very unpatriotic of her to be so down-hearted amongst such processional pomp, but when the circumstances of the case are looked into we think her "lapse" will be overlooked. She is married, and about 32 years of age. On the morning of his Majesty's visit she had nothing to eat—nor had her three children aged 6, 3, and 2 years respectively. She had another sorrow deep down in her heart also on that morning—her husband had set out on tramp in order to find employment. Before marriage the woman had worked in a cotton mill, but lack of food and child-bearing to a husband who at best was able to obtain only casual work had so undermined her health that no employer wanted her. So there she stood on the pavement and watched the King and Queen go by—then she sobbed and returned to the bare room she called "home." Neither the woman nor her husband is to blame for their present position. Will our readers help?

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCLIV.—"Don," 6d.; E. H., 2s.

CCLVI.—"Don," 2s.; E. C., 2s.

CCLVII.—"Bullite" (York), 2s. 6d.; S. R., £1; W. B., 2s. 6d.; "Sympathiser" (Southsea), 5s.; "Alas," 2s. 6d.; "Elstow, 1s.; D. P., 10s.; E. C., 1s. 2d.; W. G. W., 6d.; E. D., 2s 6d.; W. H., 6d.; H. R. G., 1s; "Painter, 1s., M. M. B., 1s.; J. T. C., 1s.; W. E. C., 1s.; J. H. N., 2s.; M. D. A. W., £5; A. C. D., 1s.; A. L. C., 10s.; W. W. P., 1s. 6d.; "Brunswick," 2s.; A. H., 2s. 6d.; H. C. S., 1s.

CCLVIII.—"Ivy Mary," 5s.; "Daisy C," £1; Miss T. 2s. 6d.; "Two English Roses," 16s.; J. E., 6d.; Mrs. S., 6d.; "Ladysmith," 3d.; J H. N., 2s.; "Sidra," 2s. 6d.; J. H. M. 10s.; F. C. P., 1s.; M. A. P., 2s. 6d.; "Ajabie," 3s. 3d.

Parcel of clothing from H. T. G.

We have this week apportioned £10 from the John Bull Derby Sweepstake Charity Fund as follows:—CCXXII., £2; CCXXV., £1; CCLVIII., £5; and £2 to the poor widow of Alfred J. Coombes, whose case we referred to in last week's issue under the heading of "From Beyond the Veil."

Mr. D. L. Lloyd, the winner of the £500 prize in our 42nd "Bullets" Competition, has kindly sent us £5, which we have much pleasure in dividing equally between Nos. CCLVII. and CCLVIII.

A LUCKY HOLIDAY.

We are pleased to have been the means of providing an altogether unexpected holiday at the seaside to little Nellie Wray, of 24, Leighton Road, Kentish Town, aged 10. It happened this wise: We were at Victoria Station a few days ago, when we observed a poor woman with an extremely delicate little child "seeing off" a number of youngsters on a trip to Eastbourne, through the medium of a holiday club to which, we gathered, they had subscribed 2d. per week during the past year. Amongst the party were two sisters of pale-faced little Nellie, who was sadly waving her hand to them as the train left the station. Our curiosity being aroused, we ventured to question the mother as to why Nellie had been left behind. We found that the father had been dead for some time, and that Mrs. Wray was earning a precarious living with her needle, and could not afford to send the child. Remembering our "Human Document" Fund and the windfall it has recently received from the John Bull Derby Sweepstake, we asked Nellie whether she would like to join her sisters—and she is now with them. Who says there is no such thing as luck in the world?

More £5 Notes for the Holidays. See page 250.

Debility, Neuralgic Colds—

Mr. Thos. W. Forrest, a Timber Merchant's Assistant Manager, 40, Addington Road, Bow, E., writes:—

"I have derived considerable benefit from 'Phosferine.' I used to suffer chronically from colds, which proved very trying, and made me feel exceedingly miserable. In taking Phosferine as a general Tonic when getting run down, I found it not only restored my strength wonderfully quickly, but made me less susceptible to colds. So that now I enjoy a freedom from those irritating, worrying symptoms which take so much of the pleasure out of one's life, and I certainly owe this immunity to Phosferine."—April 9, 1913.

CAUTION

There is only one Phosferine—beware of illegal imitations—do not be misled by PHOSPH THIS or PHOSPH THAT, but get

PHOSFERINE

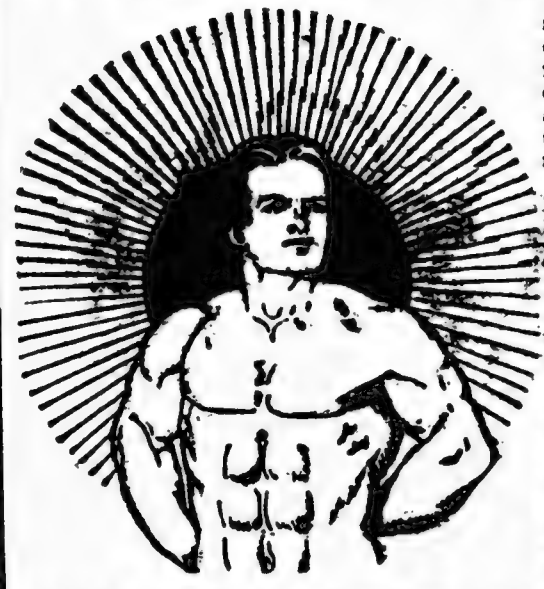
THE GREATEST TONIC AND DIGESTIVE.

PHOSFERINE has been supplied by Royal Commands to

The Royal Family	H.M. the late King of Greece
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia	H.M. the Queen of Roumania,
H.M. the King of Spain	H.M. the Queen of Spain etc.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

SPARKS OF ENERGY



IF you feel tired and stupid, with no ambition to get out and hustle; if you have spells of despondency and a desire to give up the fight, you need new energy.

We can take a man like this and pump new energy into his body while he rests, and in a few weeks' time transform him into a giant of strength and courage. It is proved that energy and electricity are one and the same thing. If you lack this energy, you can get it only by filling your nerves with electricity. The "Ajax" Dry-Cell Body Battery does that. You put it on for an hour while resting, and feel its invigorating stream of electric life in your nerves, its vitalising spark in your blood. You are a different man, full of new life, new vim, and courage enough to tackle anything.

The "Ajax" is a dry-cell body battery, an actual generator of its own current (not a storage battery), which infuses a steady force of electricity into the body as long as it is kept on. It does not shock—shocking currents should never be applied to the human body. As it makes its own power it is always ready for use. It builds up vitality and strength, and cures disease by removing the cause.

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TO REMOVE OR PREVENT

Indigestion is the cause of a vast amount of bodily discomfort and pain, and a very frequent cause of depression and misery. If people would only realise that the most necessary condition of good health, of strength, even of bodily comfort, is a healthy stomach, there would be much less suffering in the world, and a great increase of happiness. Moreover, if people would also realise that the safe, simple way to keep the stomach, liver, and bowels healthily active is to take an occasional dose of Mother Seigel's Syrup, then their general physical condition would always be one of fitness and well-being.

INDIGESTION,

No man or woman can be strong, or cheerful, or consistently hopeful if he or she is subject to frequent attacks of biliousness and headaches, pains after eating, sleeplessness, flatulence, furred tongue and constipation. But an occasional dose of Mother Seigel's Syrup *will* give you good digestion, *will* help to keep you well and cheerful, and rid you of the fear of indigestion and its evil consequences. Test it yourself to-day!

TAKE

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP.

The 2/6 size contains three times as much as the 1/1½ size. Sold also in tablet form, price 2/9.

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Moreover, this wonderful success is due to his own efforts. He has had no outside "influence" to help him on the road to success. His progress has been due to one thing and one thing only, to his business knowledge, the knowledge that tells one when to buy and how to sell, when to lay down new plant and when to retrench, that shows the way out of difficulties and the best means of seizing opportunities.

What would it mean to you?

What would it not mean to you if you could have such a man with you every day in your work to help you in *your* difficulties, to show you the way to seize *your* opportunities? You must realise that it might mean just the difference between just the mediocre measure of success that attends most hard-working men and the *real* success that comes to the few. Only a few days ago Andrew Carnegie, the great millionaire, told a reporter that "merely doing your duty is not sufficient. You must work with your head, and in addition to obeying orders *work out projects of your own.*"

Now, how are you to lay those projects, if you have no past experience to help you or no substitute for it, such as you would have if only you could have a man like Gamage for your partner?

How can you have it?

Do you know that you *can* have Gamage for your partner, at least as far as the benefit of his advice is concerned? And not only Gamage, but also Sir Joseph Lyons, the famous restaurateur; and Richard Burbidge, managing director of Harrods' Stores; and S. F. Edge, the famous expert on making and selling motor cars, who started as a cycle racer; and James Murray Allison, advertisement manager of *The Times*; and John Lawrie, managing director of William Whiteley, Ltd. Nor are these all, for you can have the advice of many other famous men, such, for example, as Mr. H. Simonis, Director of the *Daily News and Leader* and one of the most able members of the advertising profession in Great Britain.

And the way you can get the benefit of these men's knowledge is by getting the "Business Encyclopædia" and by referring to it whenever a business difficulty faces you. Whatever your difficulty, however hard it seems, you will be able to solve it by the advice given in the "Business Encyclopædia." For it is written by men who have solved similar difficulties themselves, including all those mentioned above, and many more besides, whose names will be sent free upon request.

Is it any wonder, then, that over 60,000 successful business men and great business firms are already using the work? Can there be any doubt that you will be better able to succeed if you also have it by your side to give you advice in your difficulties and to lend you confidence in your decisions?

A Book on Business Free.

In this column you will find a special coupon for readers of JOHN BULL, which entitles you to a free copy of an interesting book on business, that may set you on the right road to business success, just as it has set many others of your fellow readers. In itself it is of considerable value to any business man, for it contains actual facsimile specimens, showing how to draw up important legal documents, such as wills, agreements, leases, indentures, etc., etc.

But—and this is its most vital point for you—it tells you also *all* about this great "Business Encyclopædia," the work that JOHN BULL describes as "probably the most valuable work that any business man could have." It is the only work that gives full and detailed information on all the problems that confront the business man during his work.

Whatever line of business you are in, whatever position you occupy in it, this work can prove invaluable to you if you will use it right. If you want to know about any point in book-keeping, the "Business Encyclopædia" will tell you. If you want to know about drawing up a balance-sheet, or a profit and loss account, you will find it here. If you want to know the law as it affects your own particular calling, if you want to know anything about manufacturing, if you want to learn all about loose leaf and card index systems, you can learn it here. You can learn, in fact, of any and every subject connected with business. Surely you realise the help this knowledge would mean.

It is only because 60,000 firms and business men are already using the work that we are able to offer to deliver it to any reader of JOHN BULL for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, the balance being paid in small monthly payments, while you are already using and benefiting by the work. But signing this coupon does not cost you anything.

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Please send me one complimentary copy of the book on the "Business Encyclopædia."

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Moreover, this wonderful success is due to his own efforts. He has had no outside "influence" to help him on the road to success. His progress has been due to one thing and one thing only, to his business knowledge, the knowledge that tells one when to buy and how to sell, when to lay down new plant and when to retrench, that shows the way out of difficulties and the best means of seizing opportunities.

What would it mean to you?

What would it not mean to you if you could have such a man with you every day in your work to help you in *your* difficulties, to show you the way to seize *your* opportunities? You must realise that it might mean just the difference between just the mediocre measure of success that attends most hard-working men and the *real* success that comes to the few. Only a few days ago Andrew Carnegie, the great millionaire, told a reporter that "merely doing your duty is not sufficient. You must work with your head, and in addition to obeying orders *work out projects of your own.*"

Now, how are you to lay those projects, if you have no past experience to help you or no substitute for it, such as you would have if only you could have a man like Gamage for your partner?

How can you have it?

Do you know that you *can* have Gamage for your partner, at least as far as the benefit of his advice is concerned? And not only Gamage, but also Sir Joseph Lyons, the famous restaurateur; and Richard Burbidge, managing director of Harrods' Stores; and S. F. Edge, the famous expert on making and selling motor cars, who started as a cycle racer; and James Murray Allison, advertisement manager of *The Times*; and John Lawrie, managing director of William Whiteley, Ltd. Nor are these all, for you can have the advice of many other famous men, such, for example, as Mr. H. Simonis, Director of the *Daily News and Leader* and one of the most able members of the advertising profession in Great Britain.

And the way you can get the benefit of these men's knowledge is by getting the "Business Encyclopædia" and by referring to it whenever a business difficulty faces you. Whatever your difficulty, however hard it seems, you will be able to solve it by the advice given in the "Business Encyclopædia." For it is written by men who have solved similar difficulties themselves, including all those mentioned above, and many more besides, whose names will be sent free upon request.

Is it any wonder, then, that over 60,000 successful business men and great business firms are already using the work? Can there be any doubt that you will be better able to succeed if you also have it by your side to give you advice in your difficulties and to lend you confidence in your decisions?

A Book on Business Free.

In this column you will find a special coupon for readers of JOHN BULL, which entitles you to a free copy of an interesting book on business, that may set you on the right road to business success, just as it has set many others of your fellow readers. In itself it is of considerable value to any business man, for it contains actual facsimile specimens, showing how to draw up important legal documents, such as wills, agreements, leases, indentures, etc., etc.

But—and this is its most vital point for you—it tells you also *all* about this great "Business Encyclopædia," the work that JOHN BULL describes as "probably the most valuable work that any business man could have." It is the only work that gives full and detailed information on all the problems that confront the business man during his work.

Whatever line of business you are in, whatever position you occupy in it, this work can prove invaluable to you if you will use it right. If you want to know about any point in book-keeping, the "Business Encyclopædia" will tell you. If you want to know about drawing up a balance-sheet, or a profit and loss account, you will find it here. If you want to know the law as it affects your own particular calling, if you want to know anything about manufacturing, if you want to learn all about loose leaf and card index systems, you can learn it here. You can learn, in fact, of any and every subject connected with business. Surely you realise the help this knowledge would mean.

It is only because 60,000 firms and business men are already using the work that we are able to offer to deliver it to any reader of JOHN BULL for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, the balance being paid in small monthly payments, while you are already using and benefiting by the work. But signing this coupon does not cost you anything.

A FREE BOOK.

This Coupon entitles you to one free copy of the book on Business Success, but it must be sent at once. It tells all about the work and the specially low terms to readers of JOHN BULL.

To the CAXTON PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me one complimentary copy of the book on the "Business Encyclopædia."

Name .....
(Send this form or a postcard).

Address .....

.....

IRATE SPOUSE: "Wot, John 'Enery! Call that bump a 'eat spot?"
'ENERY: "Yus, M'ria—given to me in the 'eat of the moment!"

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

WOMEN AND SPORT.

GERT: Less 'ave a look at that piper wot the ole bloke lef' be'ind, Liz.

LIZ: 'Ere y'are. *Dily Telegrawf.* Ain't 'arf a big 'un!

GERT: (*Turns pages.*) Wot's a 'Thletic Gal, ole dear?

LIZ: Don'cher know? W'y, it means a gal wot goes in fur gimes. You know—'Ockey an' cricket, an' sich like.

GERT: 'Ere's a lot'er letters orl erbart it. Some ses as 'ow it's good fur gals, an' some ses it ain't. Wish we 'ad the chawnst ter go in fur gimes, don' chew?

LIZ: *I* dunno. Some ses it ain't ther right fing—spoils yer figger an' gives yer big feet an' 'ands. I seen ther pots playin' gorlf, an', strike me, ther gals look like blokes, some on 'em. Tork erbart waists!— Corblimy, I wouldn't 'ave a waist like some on 'em fur nuts. Strite orl ther wye darn from the awmpits to the 'ips, no chest, an' nuthin' ter sit darn on. Proper guys, *I* tell yer.

GERT: It's ther wye they dress, I 'speck, mikes them look like thet.

LIZ: Not it. You cawn't 'ide yer figger if yer've got enny. If yer squeeze yerself flat in one place its gotter come art somew'eres else. 'Owe they get blokes is a fair puzzle ter me. They cawn't be like ther fellers darn our wye. It's figger wot *they* want in a gal. Give 'em a bit o' fat an' they're 'appy. I know wot my Bill sed to me larst Sa'dy w'en we wos 'avin' some wilks in Shoreditch.

GERT: Wot did 'e sye?

LIZ: I awsked 'im wot 'e took a fancy ter me fur. "Wotterbart Em'ly Brarn darn our court?" I ses. "W'y didn't chew 'ook onto 'er?" I ses. "She's gotter prettier fice 'n wot I've got," I ses.

GERT: Wot did 'e sye?

LIZ: "P'raps she 'as," 'e ses. "She's pretty enough, I grawnt yer," 'e ses. "But she ain't got no figger."

GERT: Wot didjew sye?

LIZ: "Wotterbartit?" I ses. "Wotterbart it?" 'e ses; "w'y, *hev'rything* erbart it," 'e ses. "Give me a bit 'er figger," 'e ses, "an' you kin do wotcher like wiv yer fice," 'e ses. "Git art!" I ses. "W'y?" "W'y, yer cawn't see a pretty fice in ther dawk, can yer?" 'e ses. "But cher knows w'en yer gotter bitter figger in yer 'ands," 'e ses. "Thet's w'y I likes yer, Liz," 'e ses.

GERT: Wot didjew sye?

LIZ: "Git art!" I ses. "Thet's wotcher maul us erbart fur, is it? You keep yer 'ands orf in fucher." But orl ther sime, I wasn't 'arf pleased. I wonder wot Em'ly Brarn would 'ave sed if she'd 'eard 'im. Ere, one bloke 'ere ses as 'ow sport ain't good fur gals cos too much erv it stops them 'avin' kids, or gives 'em sickly ones.

LIZ: I ain't surprised, arter wot I've seen. 'Ow kin a gal bring up a kid 'ealthy if she ain't got nuthink ter feed it wiv?

GERT: Don't tork ser lard. I seen thet bloke in ther corner cock 'is eye up w'en yer sed thet.

LIZ: Let 'im. It don't matter. 'E looks as though *'is* muvver brought 'im up on ther washin's of milk cans instead of feedin' 'im proper.

GERT: Annuver bloke 'ere ses as 'ow *h*exercise is good fur gals.

LIZ: Ennybody knows thet. We 'ave enuff, don't we? I wonder 'ow some er them gals wot plays 'ockey an' gorlf 'ud like our job at ther fact'ry? They wouldn't wanter run erbart arter a ball w'en their work was done, I reckon. No fear. Give me a walk art wiv my bloke an' a drop o' beer an' a plate o' wilks. Thet's my mawk. An' it keeps yer figger orl right, I reckon. W'y, 'ere we aw!

Our First Great New-Season Football Contest begins this week. See page 243.

The Secret of Técla's Success.

THE SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION OF EXQUISITE GEMS.

By Lawrance H. Calhaem.

THE passion for personal adornment has no geographical limits. It is as strong to-day in the woman who walks in the park as it was in those five Egyptian princesses of the XIIth dynasty, whose jewellery, buried with them more than 4,000 years ago and found intact in their tomb at Dahshur, shows that the art of the jeweller had, even in those early days attained a high degree of perfection. It is as observable in Otahiti as in Paris, as potent a factor in the life of Stamboul as of London. Its votaries and victims are to be found alike in New Guinea and New Bond Street. In fact, all over the world, womankind dreams of Aladdin's cave, though whether she furnishes it with cowries, corals, or diamonds, depends first upon her wealth, and second upon how deeply she has bitten into the fruit of the tree of knowledge.

Indeed, one has not to probe far into the recesses of a woman's mind to discover that the appreciation of trinkets is an ineradicable instinct. And in this respect duchess and kitchenmaid are sisters. For the matter of that, there is not such a vast difference between man and woman in appreciation of rich and rare articles of jewellery as Western habitude would suggest. Mankind is much the same all the world over, but whereas in the Orient masculine delight in ownership of the matchless precious stone or pearl without price is naked and unashamed, in the Occident it finds the more subtle satisfaction of seeing the gem of worth paying its tribute to feminine charms.

The pity of it is that there have never been enough really perfect gems to go round. Of diamonds, perhaps, there are always sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the eye, though hopelessly insufficient to gratify individual cravings, but of the rarer gems there have never been enough to allow of their decorative value being realised to the full.

But Nature's parsimony in this respect has proved a spur to man's endeavour. That which is made in Nature's laboratory must inevitably sooner or later be produced in man's. Science, and especially chemical science, is the dominant character of our age. The analyst has made it possible to attack problems of cause and effect from a fresh quarter. To the chemist there is no longer the mystery of apparently non-producible substance. His tireless research has broken up compounds and resolved them into their chemical atoms. Are we not all familiar with the activities of modern chemistry as regards rubber, for example? In that case the laboratory has allied itself with commerce to produce a substance that has all the properties of Nature's growth. How soon complete success will round off its labours no one can prophesy. But with the Técla gems, whose makers have in the same way pitted their resources against a phenomenon of Nature, success is already won.

Without modern scientific knowledge not only would the making of Técla gems be impossible, but one would be almost unable to distinguish them from natural stones. In colour, in fire, there is no difference. Chemically, they are practically identical, as an official analysis of Técla rubies made by the French Chamber of Mines (No. 8432, December 3rd, 1909), amply proves. A geologist himself might be deceived by them, for in the qualities of hardness and durability they are in no way inferior to the natural products of the earth. The process of manufacture is interesting. Into the centre of a crucible, known as a *chalumeau*, there is dropped, in infinitesimal quantities, a dust the composition of which is not divulged. On this an oxyhydrogen flame impinges, causing the powder to coalesce; and thus, little by little, the ruby is built up.

With sapphires and emeralds the mode of operation is much the same. The process for the manufacture of Técla pearls differs widely from that employed in the case of the rubies, emeralds, and sapphires, and here the scientist finds that he cannot do better than closely follow nature. So upon a round solid core there is deposited layer after layer of a material which has the fine texture and the sheen of the natural pearl. The result is a triumph of science. The composition of the substance used is a secret, but after all there is no need to pry too closely into the way the results are accomplished. The outcome itself is that which matters, and as Técla pearls have the same soft lustre, the same hardness, together with the weight of the gems which comes from the fisheries of Ceylon or the Sulu seas, there is no need to quibble over the terms in which to describe them. They are the product of man's art and not of the oyster's protective faculty, but they are none the less beautiful for that, as any one who has seen and handled them must admit. In this case, conforming to the general rule, prejudice dies with increase of knowledge. Técla pearls are indeed worthy of the finest possible setting, and recognition of this fact is the keynote of the success which has attended the introduction of the Técla products, call them what you will.

Obviously, however, no result in jewellery can be beautiful that weds even the most lovely stone to an unworthy setting. Tennyson's words, "Thou art mated with a clown, and the grossness of his nature will have weight to drag thee down," comes irresistibly to mind in this connection. Artistic perfection, exquisite harmony between stone and setting—these are the essentials of the perfect ornament. Thanks to the productions of the Técla laboratory, the craftsmen of this famous French house are able to concentrate on the true function of their art—the production of exquisite jewellery—because they can ignore the irrelevant considerations of supply and arbitrary prices.

Paris, it may be here remarked, is still untouchable in her *joaillerie*. It was there that the renaissance of the art took place, and there the artists who design and the craftsmen who execute the finest specimens of workmanship are still to be found. And amongst them there are few who can equal, none who can surpass, those of the Técla *etablissement*.

To realise this, one has only to inspect the many examples of the art of the jewel worker to be seen in the attractive *salons* at 7, Old Bond Street, W.—each and every one striking that note of originality demanded in latter-day ornaments, You can see it in necklet or collarette, in bracelet, brooch, and ring alike.

In conclusion, it should be said that only real diamonds are used in all the jewellery produced by this firm, and the mountings are of platinum and gold.

OPEN LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.

To W. H. Kendal, Esq., Actor, Filey.

Dear Mummer,—I note you have written to the Filey Council protesting "in the most emphatic manner" against the performance of Punch and Judy which took place on the green "just in front of your house" on at least two occasions.

You went on to observe, "It is not only a nuisance, but most damaging to the value of my property." And it appears "this bit of green is made the playground of all the children." Is it, really? Well, I *am* glad!

I observe, however, that the children who walk on the green are "well-to-do, attended by nursemaids." It must be a great consolation to you to know this; it would be terrible to think of poor children, perhaps playing marbles, on your green, wouldn't it? But perhaps it is not your green? If you have not bought this corner of the earth I fail to see how you are going to keep well-behaved kiddies off it.

And as regards poor Punch and Judy, have you no tenderness towards these historic mummers, members of your own profession? You have adorned the stage for many years, but Punch and Judy are even older stars. It ill becomes an actor to protest shrilly and surlily against his humble brethren trying to pick up a few coppers.

By the way, is your liver out of order?

John Bull.

To His Honour Judge Stanger, County Court, Salford.

Dear Your Honour,—I put it to you. Julius Pickstock, a labourer in the employ of Messrs. Hodkin and Jones, of Sheffield, met with serious injuries in the course of his employment, sustaining a fracture of both legs. After treatment at the hospital, he was removed to the Barnes Convalescent Home, and there, while still weak and ill, he was visited by an agent of an insurance company, who induced him to accept eight sovereigns in full satisfaction of his claim against his employers. The poor fellow's illness then took a turn for the worse, and he has since suffered great pain and exhaustion, to say nothing of severe monetary loss. In the face of these facts, you have dismissed his claim to further compensation, holding that the eight pounds agreement was a valid one and properly obtained. Your unfortunate decision lends judicial sanction to a mischievous practice, whereby sick men are persuaded to barter away their rights for a paltry pittance. The mere fact that the so-called agreement was extracted from a sick man sufficed to raise a strong presumption that it was obtained by "undue influence," and equity imperatively demanded a liberal interpretation of the law. I fear you have rendered grave disservice to the cause of justice and the interests of the poor.

John Bull.

To Josiah Wedgwood, Esq., M.P.

Sir,—Accept my congratulations. Your almost unaided fight against the Mental Deficiency Bill, on the occasion of its third reading in the House of Commons, was a splendid effort. For twelve consecutive hours you fought, speaking no less than 150 times, and my admiration is turned to wondering awe when I learn that you did it all upon chocolate and barley water. You were doubtless fortified by the knowledge that this mischievous measure is condemned by a large body of enlightened opinion in the country, which has unhappily found scant expression in Parliament, where members are content to be driven and dragooned by the Party Whips into any excess of legislative folly. I wish I had been there to lend you a hand—in the fighting. You might have had the barley water and chocolate all to yourself! John Bull.

To Allan Lawrie, Esq., London Sessions.

Sir,—I raise my hat to you. You are proving yourself a truly great judge, and by your merciful and humane methods are doing more to reform criminals than can be accomplished by any penal code. May you have abundant proof of the fact that the quality of mercy is twice blessed—blessing him that gives and him that takes.

John Bull.

To the Pensions Committee, Fareham, Hants.

Gentlemen,—Permit me to call your attention to the case of George Bucksey, a pensioner on the public bounty which you are appointed to administer. He is eighty-two years of age, honest, respectable and—despite his great age—hard working still. For fifteen months you made him the full allowance of five shillings a week. Now, for reasons best known to yourselves, you have reduced the payment to three shillings. I am at a loss to understand your action, in view of my information that the old man's wages are but eight shillings.

Nor is this all. You now claim that Bucksey was overpaid by you from April, 1912, to June of the present year, and you have the effrontery to demand that he shall repay you upwards of five pounds. You will scarcely accuse Bucksey of fraud, so that if the sums paid him were in fact excessive, the mistake must obviously have arisen through misunderstanding or blundering on the part of your own officials. For their inadvertence, you propose to fine Bucksey. You seek to reimburse your funds from the poor man's slender income—scarce enough as it is to support his flickering existence. I understand, moreover, that he struggles to maintain a sickly son. I beg you to reconsider the matter. I cannot believe that you will deliberately perpetrate so grave a wrong. John Bull.

To the Rev. C. B. Law, Vicar of Cheshunt.

Silly Sir,—I have been reading the address which you delivered at the graveside at the burial of the four victims of the recent motor 'bus disaster at Hoddesdon. You thought it meet and decent to say that "God had spoken. There is too much drinking in the district; too much swearing; too much blasphemy; too much dishonesty. That is the meaning of this, and it has all been done in love." You old hypocrite! If I had been present, believe me, there would have been a bit more swearing.

Do not you see that by such canting drivel you disgust people with the very name of religion? Do you really believe that God has no better method of showing His displeasure at the lapses of his own creatures than by inflicting horrible torture upon them—even the most innocent—and leaving those near and dear to them alone and adrift in a cold world? Cannot you realise that in such a moment the mission of the priest is to comfort and succour—and not to scoff and abuse? Go to Sunday-school and learn the A.B.C. of your religion.

John Bull.

To the Rev. Hugh Chapman, Chapel Royal, Savoy.

Courtly Cleric,—I note that, in your reverend judgment, "the poor cannot afford to love." Such a cynical statement comes somewhat strangely from one of your cloth, and I cannot think that you can have weighed your words. Do you really know the poor at all at first hand, or are your impressions of them confined to what you have read in police-court reports and in the news columns of sensational prints? Methinks there is as much of honest affection—aye, and of homely romance, if you will—in "the short and simple annals" of those of low estate, as in the more garish dramas of Park Lane and Mayfair. Love breeds fidelity; and infidelity, as you well know, is not the besetting sin of the "horny-handed sons of toil." Deeper thought and closer observation will convince you of the truth of my words. The ecclesiastic vision is sometimes strangely dim. John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Colonel Seely, M.P., Secretary of State for War.

My Dear Seely,—You really must be careful. I observe that while you were watching the recent field firing competitions at Aldershot a bullet passed so close to you that, but for the merest chance, both you and the British Army might have lost a head. I shuddered at the news. Without wishing anyone any harm, I can assure you that there are many of your Ministerial colleagues who might be much more easily spared. You, at least, know something about your job, and I have still great hopes of you. You are much too good a chap to become a target for stray bullets. Pray don't run such risks.

John Bull.

The Final CRICKET Coupon will be found on page 244.

THE NEW RECRUIT—

AND THE OLD RETAINER.

WHOM COULD WE BEST DO WITHOUT?

A SPURIOUS SYMPOSIUM.

It is said that no man is indispensable, but there is no doubt that opinions differ very widely as to who would be least missed. Desiring a symposium of opinion on this subject, we recently solicited a number of prominent persons to reply to the question that heads this column. We were surprised by the results. We believe our readers will be equally surprised when they peruse the selection of replies we print below :—

Mr. Lloyd George :

With all due respect to his Majesty, I think the person this country could most easily do without is the King. He merely registers the decrees of Parliament, which as a matter of fact mainly emánate from myself. How much simpler and less expensive it would be to have a benevolent despot at the head of affairs, a man capable of thinking out such measures as Old Age Pensions, the Insurance Act, the Increment Tax, Disestablishment, etc., etc. See what you would save! I—that is to say, he—would merely require to express his will and it would be done, and the people would rise up and call him blessed. Of course, I can easily conceive circumstances in which the loss of the King would be a public calamity. But whilst I am on the spot to undertake the arduous duties of autocratic government, he is really not required.

Sir Edward Carson :

If there is one man above all others whom we would be better without, it is John Redmond.

Mr. John Redmond :

If we were to start to eliminate the unnecessary, Sir Edward Carson would be the first to go.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald :

There are many men we could very well do without, but I believe there would be fewer tears shed over the demise of Keir Hardie than over that of any other man in this country.

Mr. James Keir Hardie :

I will answer your question by asking you another: Of what earthly use is Ramsay Macdonald?

Col. Seely :

I don't want to hurry him, but I think we could now very well do without Lord Roberts, and after him, Mr. Joynson Hicks.

Mr. Winston Churchill :

I can answer your question in a brace of shakes: Lord Charles Beresford, of course.

Sir Percy Scott :

I don't want to be rude, but his name commences with a B, and ends with a y.

Mrs. Pankhurst :

I would rather not make any invidious distinction. The man we could most profitably dispense with is—Man.

Mr. Reginald McKenna :

I find it impossible to make a single selection; but I think that if all the women (bar one) in this country were exterminated, it would be a loss we could very well sustain.

Mr. Robert Sievier :

I have no idea who will come in first in your symposium, but I don't mind backing Richard Wootton for a place.

Mr. Richard Wootton :

So far as the British section of the human race goes, I think the field would get along much better without Robert Sievier.

Mr. Hall Caine :

As an author of some note, I naturally look at your question from the point of view of one who takes a very deep interest in the reading public. Their well-being is nearest my heart, and I say without hesitation—loath as I am to speak in any way harshly of a woman—that intellectually they would suffer least by the loss of Miss Corelli than of any other living novelist.

Mr. Bart Kennedy :

Whom could we best do without? . . . Whose loss would least put us through it? . . . Not one, but many. . . . The Gas House . . . at Westminster. That's what we could best do without. . . . The Gas House. . . . Where the Gas Bags sit on green benches. . . . Their loss would not put us through it.

WHEN SUMMER INSECTS
BITE and STING
HOMOCEA'S THE VERY THING
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For further particulars call or write at once (please mention this paper), MANAGER, The British Bioscope School, 5, New Oxford Street, W.C.

BRANDY TO CURE CATARRH

Recent experiments have proved conclusively that catarrh is a constitutional disease, and that salves, sprays, inhalers, etc., merely temporise with the disease, and seldom, if ever, effect a permanent cure. This being so, much time and money have been spent of late by a noted specialist in perfecting a pure, gentle, yet effective tonic, that would dispel all traces of the catarrhal poison from the system. The result is given in the following formula, which has been found to produce most surprising results in an incredibly short time.

From your chemist obtain 1oz. of Parmint. Take this home and add to it ½-pint of hot water and two tablespoonfuls of brandy and 4 oz. of moist or granulated sugar. Stir until dissolved. Take one tablespoonful four times a day.

The first dose promptly ends the most miserable headache, dulness, sneezing, sore throat, running of the nose, catarrhal discharges, and other loathsome symptoms that always accompany this disgusting disease.

Loss of smell, defective hearing, and mucous dropping in the back of the throat are other symptoms that show the presence of catarrh, and which are quickly overcome by the use of this simple treatment.

Every person who has catarrh in any form should give this prescription a trial. There is nothing better.

LET US MAKE YOU FAT.

2/6 Box Free.

We Will Prove at Our Own Expense that it is No Longer Necessary to be Thin, Scraggy, and Undeveloped.

Strong Nerves and New Vitality for Every Man and Woman.

"Look at that pair of skinny scarecrows! Why don't they try Sargol?"

This is a generous offer to every thin man or woman who reads this announcement. We positively guarantee to increase your weight to your own satisfaction, or you need not pay anything. Think this over—think what it means. At our own risk we offer to put 10, 15, yes, 30 pounds of good solid permanent flesh on your bones, to fill out hollows on your cheeks, neck, or bust, to get rid of those unhealthy looks, to rejuvenate and revitalise your whole body until it tingles with vibrant energy; to do this without drastic diet, "tonics," severe physical culture, detention from business, or any irksome requirements—if we fail it costs you nothing.

We particularly wish to hear from the excessively thin, those who know the humiliation and embarrassment which only skinny people have to suffer in silence. We want to send a free 2s. 6d. package of our new discovery to the people who are called "scrags" and "laths," to bony women whose clothes never look well no matter how expensively dressed, and skinny men who fail to gain social or business recognition on account of their starved appearance. We care not whether you have been thin from birth, whether you have lost flesh through sickness, how many flesh builders you have experimented with. We take the risk, and assume it cheerfully. If we cannot put pounds and pounds of healthy flesh on your frame we do not want your money.

The new treatment increases the red corpuscles in the blood, strengthens the nerves, and puts the digestive tract into such condition that your food is assimilated and turned into good, solid, healthy flesh, instead of passing through the system undigested and unassimilated. Sargol is founded on a thoroughly scientific principle, and builds up the thin, weak, and debilitated without any nauseous dosing. It is far better than cod-liver oil, and certainly is much pleasanter to take.

Send for the 2s. 6d. box to-day. Convince us by your prompt acceptance of this offer that you are writing in good faith and really desire to gain in weight. The 2s. 6d. package, which we will send you free, will astonish you. We send it that you may see the simple, harmless nature of our new discovery, how easy it is to take, how you gain flesh privately without the knowledge of friends or family, until you astonish them by the prompt and unmistakable results.

We could not publish this offer in JOHN BULL if we were not prepared to live up to it. It is only the astonishing results of our new method of treament that make such an offer and such a guarantee possible on our part. So cut out the coupon to-day and post it at once to the Sargol Company (Dept. 1340), Carlton House, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., and please send three penny stamps with it to help to pay the distribution expenses. Take our word, you will never regret it.

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This Certificate, with 3 Penny Stamps to help pay postage and distribution expenses, entitles the holder to one 2s. 6d. package of Sargol, the Flesh Builder. THE SARGOL COMPANY (Dept. 1340), Carlton House, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

Sargol is also sold and recommended by such high-class stores as Harrods'; Selfridge's; Wm. Whiteley's; Spiers and Pond's; Army and Navy Stores; Gamage, Ltd.; Boot's, Cash Chemists; Taylor's Drug Stores; Lewis and Burrows; Hy. Hodder; and other reliable stores.

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"I have a case at present. I hope soon to find a case with a diamond necklace in it."

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"You are correct. Allow me to recapitulate the facts regarding this mysterious disappearance. The necklace in question was the property of a jeweller in Berlin. It consisted of twenty-seven stones, a large centre one and twenty-six smaller ones. Do you see anything remarkable in that?"

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Dr. Watsoff gasped. "I had not thought of that."

"Then *do* think of it. Because it seems to prove that the large stone is bigger than those that are smaller. I think I may claim that as a definite clue."

"You may," admitted the doctor. And he murmured, "What a brain!"

"Let us proceed. The necklace is insured for a quarter of a million, insured against theft, burglary, arson, rain, wreck, flood, fire, and tide. Presumably it would be kept in a safe. But was it? No. The Berlin jeweller had a friend in London who wanted to see it. It was sent to him by post. Rather risky, you think? So do I. And mark this. The post-office clerk charged seven-and-six for postage, and an hour or two afterwards walked round to the jeweller's wife and handed her eighteenpence because he had charged too much for the parcel. Now, whenever you have put too many stamps on a parcel, have you ever known the chap walk out of the post-office and part up the excess to your missus?"

"No," mused Watsoff. "But then, you see, I'm not married."

"Neither am I, but I am almost ready to get married, to see whether such a thing could happen in this country. But to proceed. When the necklace arrived in London, the friend opened the parcel and found the necklace had not arrived. See?"

"It was missing?"

"You are quick in grasping facts. Yes, the necklace was missing, and the case in which it had been packed contained nothing but a few pieces of salt."

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"Not if it was stolen before it arrived."

"Your comments are most helpful. Now, Watsoff, get me my hat, stick and revolver. We will go out."

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"Nothing. And I shall do nothing. If I do nothing, the necklace will turn up. Mark my words."

"But—I don't understand!"

"No? Well, you remember the salt in the case? Now there are lots of tales about the necklace—and you should take a grain of that salt with each of them!"

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John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 248.
For Sporting Replies, see page 252.

C. L. (Hounslow).—It is no use your complaining to us about your son. You should adopt the motto of our first prize "Bullet" winner this week—"I'll alter him"—and do it!

T. M. (Kirkcaldy) and hundreds of others, think they are entitled to guineas for pointing out that by chance 27976 was among the fifty numbers announced as drawn in respect of our issues of August 2nd and July 26th. Were we to reward the persons who pointed out such coincidences, there would not be enough gold in the Bank of England to meet the claims. Of course, we pay only for the front cover bearing on its face one of the numbers announced in the following issue as being drawn.

"ANTI-PATRIOTISM" (Brakpan).—The "reason why," if a soldier kills a man in war he gets a medal or perhaps a statue, and if a civilian kills a man he gets a rope, is that the one is a licensed slaughterer and the other isn't.

H. S. (Barnsley).—We believe the House of Lords did pass the Insurance Bill without amending it.

A. B. S. (Norwich).—Yes. Goods traffic charges of the railway companies are a very heavy tax on agriculture as a home industry.

B. H. H. (Weybridge).—As a teacher, you think "our English boys are good stuff but are too cramped and cocksure in their notions." They are also the deuce for mischief.

R. L. S. (Lanark).—Colonel Seely served with the Imperial Yeomanry in the South African War.

"CONSTANT READER" (Bow, E.).—Thank you for the sample of pill which you send to us for our opinion, as you can "mention several people who have taken one." The effect on the dog has been most marked.

T. V. (Llandudno).—A woman in love can endure a lot of neglect and brutality. It is the old story probably—"A woman, a dog, and a walnut tree, the more you beat 'em the better they be."

"VIATOR" (Frome).—How long is it possible for a man to fast? Forty days and forty nights, but it is just as well to sit up and see he does it. *Our* custom during Lent is to fast between every meal.

JESSIE A. (Balham).—We have no information about the Harley Institute of Swedish Massage.

W. J. (Birkenhead).—You don't make yourself clear. You ask us to enlighten you. Kindly enlighten us as to what you would like us to enlighten you upon.

W. C. (Plymouth).—We can just make out your signature and address. What did you write with—a match dipped in Reckitt's blue?

D. G. A. (Earlsfield).—No doubt the sanatorium and domiciliary benefits under the Insurance Act have been badly muddled in several instances. The fact is, Mr. Lloyd George has "bitten off more than he can chew."

F. W. S. (Southall).—No doubt they could be compelled to repay the "board" money deducted, if at the time of dismissal your friend had not received his board.

"DISGUSTED" (Brighton).—As he is a "nonentity," why should you worry? For our part, we don't care a brass farthing about the flatulent verbosities of all the Y.M.C.A.s in this or any other kingdom.

A. G. (Isle of Man).—Our programme is for a Free Sunday. While any sort of trader is free to open shop on Sunday, our opinion is that every sort of trader should be free to do so. At the same time it is evident that general Sunday trading would be very far from an advantage to wage-earners

M. U. (King's Norton).—The "Self-Examination Questions" are such as Ritualists—that is to say, Anglicans who favour imitative Roman Catholic doctrine and practice in the Church of England—frequently distribute to children.

A. G. (St. Helens).—A National Dispensers' Association, if managed in the interests of dispensers and not in the interests of individuals, would no doubt be of advantage.

F. D. (Dublin).—Screed on Dublin Labour Exchange too windy.

MARY McG. (Portsmouth).—Very nice of you to think, and say, such kind things of us.

"SAMMY" (Boston).—Though you are entitled to your own opinion of Mr. Lloyd George, if we again catch you rhyming "fudgit" with "budget" we shall grudge it.

P. S. I. (Exeter).—*Vous avez raison!* Nobody who is properly civilised tilts his soup plate. It is as bad as eating jam with a spoon or fish with a dinner knife.

L. W. (Halifax) asks us to do what we can to improve the quality of talking machine records. If we had our way we would improve some of them off the face of the earth.

F. F. W. (Tunbridge Wells).—Can you produce any evidence to confirm your charges against the Kentish lady farmer you mention? We cannot act on *ex parte* statements alone.

T. J. P. (Southwick).—For the billionth time, "Captain" Walter Rand is a Yankee humbug, and his lucky stones are not worth playing ducks and drakes with.

E. F. G. (Camberwell, S.E.) doubts if the doings of Royalty are of much interest to the newspaper reading public. The conduct of the average man and woman in the street when a royal carriage heaves in sight does not confirm this view.

"JOE H." (Annfield Plain) asks "what position a member of a union is in who refuses to pay the levy of a union," when one of the rules of the union, to which he has subscribed, empowers the Executive Council "to make any levy upon the members of the union for any purpose they may deem fit?" A very unpleasant position, we should imagine.

"A REGULAR READER" (Dover).—The law does not allow you to teach your own children at home unless you happen to be a certificated teacher qualified to give them adequate instruction. Send the little beggars to school. It will do them good.

G. H. R. (Hereford).—We don't think your friend deserves a biscuit for asking "if he became ill or died for a week how much would Lloyd George give him?" All he's entitled to is the attention of an inspector under the Mental Deficiency Bill when it comes into operation.

A. W. (Shipton Cherwell).—We haven't time to look up the answers to all your questions respecting the Lebaudy airship. We know very little more about the War Office aerial craft than Colonel Seely himself.

P. E. H. (Upton Park, E.).—According to the last census there were 22,012,872 men and 23,352,727 women in the British Isles. Work out the percentage for yourself.

J. H. (Newton Heath).—Sorry to read of the state of affairs at Boot Hall Infirmary. If what you say is true, the patients are not shewn much consideration. We should say some of the Guardians and officials deserve the order of the boot

E. C. M. (Moss Side).—It is not to be expected that we can return unsolicited communications unless stamped addressed envelopes are enclosed.

M. McC. (Glasgow).—It was unnecessary for you to tell us that the verses you sent were your first attempt. Where did you feel the pain at the time?

T. D. C. (Bradford).—We receive many hundreds of insurance questions which are best answered by the official "experts." Put your case before the Insurance Commissioners and the secretary of your society, and they will tell you exactly where you stand.

R. S. (Annan).—"Perhaps the following letter might interest your readers to know how the National Insurance Act is managed and how long it takes to settle a claim." We have forwarded it to our chestnut department.

Don't forget the Pen Coupon on page ii. of cover.

A. T. (Gockston Hospital).—We are sorry to hear your complaints as to the treatment you are receiving in this hospital as a consumptive patient. Do not forget that, bad as you are, others may be worse. Your turn for the sanatorium at Bridge of Weir may come.

F. C. S. (Cardiff).—We are tired of warning our readers against the methods of the British Clothing Club, of Manchester. We congratulate you on the return of your 2s. deposit.

"Expectant" (Cardiff).—Write to the British Consul nearest to the town in which your uncle died, giving full particulars. He should be able to find out whether your uncle left a will, and the terms of it.

N. O. (Youghal) writes: "As i wrote to the High Commissioner for S. Africa for particulars about appointments in the Union Customs service—is there any chance of obtaining such appointments?" Not so long as you spell the first person singular with a small i.

"Brokenhearted" (Belfast).—We are not acquainted with the address of Dr. Freedman, who, as you say, is supposed to have found a cure for consumption. We are afraid no one has yet discovered a certain cure for that dread disease.

Miss E. D. C. (Ashden) thinks we deserve a biscuit for having stated that "some day it may be possible to arrange that where a woman is the bread-winner the man will be compelled to bear the burden of motherhood." Miss E. D. C., being a spinster, naturally knows nothing about such questions, but we will venture to remind her that there appears to be no limits to the possibilities of science.

R. K. (Trowbridge) relates a telephone incident. It was desired to 'phone from Trowbridge to Richmond (Surrey). After giving the number and waiting patiently for about an hour to be put through, the caller was rung up by the exchange and asked how he spelled Richmond. We should have spelled it D-A-M-N.

G. L. C. (Kensington), having been working for a few days in contact with a man infected with er—live stock, has discovered that some of the vermin of which Bobbie Burns sang so sweetly have transferred their attentions to him. He asks "what is the best thing to do in this case?" Follow the advice given by the Frenchman to purchasers of his flea-powder.

A. R. (Snaith, Yorks.) asks our opinion of the Psycho Success Club, of 262, Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E. It is an impudent imposture, notwithstanding "the astounding proof (?) that this Club seems to be carrying on a good work."

"Fairplay" (Grimsby).—We are always ready to consider "copy" submitted to us, and if it is accepted and published to pay for it.

Mrs. E. (Brixton Hill).—What on earth have blouses to do with picture plots and mesmerism? Your letter strikes us as being neither more nor less than an incoherent jumble. See a doctor before you write us again.

G. B. (Caledonian Road, N.) wants to know where he can obtain a publication entitled "The Martyrdom of Ferrier." Write to the Rationalist Press, Johnson's Court, Fleet Street.

"Liverpuliensis" informs us that the University of Liverpool gives a Degree of Bachelor of Commercial Sciences, also certificates for same. When we want a new office boy we shall look out for a B.C.S. (Liverpool).

E. T. (Sheffield).—Cannot decipher the name, but somebody has evidently unloaded stuff on you and not fulfilled the agreement. It is a case for a civil court, as you would have a difficulty in proving that the money was obtained by legally "false pretences."

J. F. (Llanelly).—As far as we know, there is no difference between a sentence of "penal servitude for life" and "penal servitude for the term of your natural life." Some judges are more wordy than others, that is all. "The last man sentenced to penal servitude for the term of his natural life" is unknown to us, thank goodness.

"Would-be Britisher" (Ramsgate).—When you have resided in the United Kingdom for five years, you may apply to the Home Secretary for a Certificate of Naturalisation, furnishing at the same time satisfactory evidence of your intention to make the United Kingdom your permanent home. Considering the benefits, the fees are cheap—about £6; and some people think they ought to be £126. Even then there isn't another country in the world which could offer such fine lodgings for the money.

"Marie" (Brighton).—We note that you commenced Anne Mason's fat cure after sending her £1 15s. on April 1st, and have been getting fatter ever since. Wait till next April 1st, and then send another £1 15s. for her system of "How to become fat"—then you may get thin. "I'm very mad, mind," you tell us. Thought you would have been very sad, mind.

A. J. K. (Southampton).—You think out description of the labour shed in Caynte-Road as "Hell with the Lid On" is appropriate do you? Well, really "Hell with the Lid Off" would have been more so, but we wished to stifle the horrors for the sake of the neighbours.

G. I. (Camden Square).—Though there may be nothing in the Wireless Telegraphy Act about a charge for a P.M.G. licence enabling persons to set up a station to conduct experiments in wireless telegraphy, the Post Office are entitled to make departmental regulations for administration, and the charge of one guinea "to cover Post Office expenses connected with the issue of the licence and the inspection of the installation" does not appear to be unreasonable.

"A Well Wisher" (Leytonstone).—Your letter is much appreciated. For all your good wishes to us, all our good wishes to you.

"John Bull Leaguer" (Cape Colony).—Having received official printed notice in two languages that a parcel awaited you at the local post office you hastened down and now ask us to "imagine the look on the official's face when you opened it and pulled out John Bull." We imagine accordingly.

"C. Lively" (Heaton Park).—Glad to note you are still so lively, Lively.

R. W. C. (Camelford).—What reply do you expect us to make to your statement that the national school in your "small and rather declining town" has been condemned "through the persistent attacks of two townsmen who got on the Education Committee"? The point is, what was the matter with the school?

J. & L. (Ruskin Park).—Your suggestion is a fair one, but our experience of clergy who make so much commotion about reading the Burial Service is that they are conscientious only in their uncharity; but we shall probably have reason to deal with the matter again later.

J. R. W. (U. Edmonton).—"Who can presume to tell how many unfortunate persons whose deaths are not scientifically verified go down to the grave alive but, as in certain forms of suspended animation, are quite unable to give the slightest sign or manifestation of life?" Certainly not us.

"Ethel" (Farnborough).—It was foolish of you to part with half-a-crown for the advice of the Anglo-American School of Art Reproduction, 11, Red Lion Square, Southampton Row. However, keep the £5 they want for 24 drawing lessons and attend a local art school in your spare evenings. There are hundreds of expert artists in London unable to make a living. Our correspondence is so great that we have only now reached your letter.

M. A. (Bedford).—Consult Datas as to when Miss Violet Charlesworth's trial took place. We do not keep records of unimportant occurrences.

J. H. (Cork).—You send us "some verses suggested by the title of our paper," but as you "feel a bit weary just at present to concentrate your thoughts on the punctuation," you ask us to "put on one of the boys" to do the needful. Unfortunately all the boys are a bit weary just at present also. Send again in ten years.

R. H. F. (Birmingham).—Thanks for sending us "a dirty piece of the *Birmingham Post*" concerning the price of cured and uncured pig. We note that instead of killing pigs infected with swine fever, the Dutch Government cure 'em by injecting serum into 'em. Does this explain why some of our breakfast bacon tastes so nasty?

W. S. W. (Glamorgan).—You ask "where the English language is best spoken and if the English is a recognised language." The English language is best spoken in Wapping, but is not recognised on golf links.

"Espera" (Dorset).—As you appear to be a very new reader, take it from us that if you part with 20s. to McKean of the Mail Order concern you will be an ass. We have been warning readers against him and all his tribe ever since we were born.

"Curious" (Islington).—What was "the origin of the Glad Eye"? The after results of the apple affair in the Garden of Eden.

"Churchman" (Hull).—"Six days shalt thou labour," you quote; "but the seventh day is the Sabbath." It is against yourself, for Sunday is the first day, not the seventh, and therefore not the Sabbath. You are at business on Sabbath morning and play in the afternoon, no doubt?

A. J. T. (Johannesburg).—Thanks, but it is difficult to credit that British troops have used soft-nosed bullets, even though you assure us Tommies have shown them to you and expressed their disgust at having to use them. Better make a declaration, stating the names of your informants, and send it to a British member of Parliament.

"Jon Roas" (Belfast).—Your letter considered. We can only recommend you to widen your reading.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

£1,500 for Easy Football Forecasts. New Skill Contest. See page 243.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Is Colonel Seely an expert in air-"craft"?
Will the Channel Tunnel ever "go through"?
Shouldn't the State be its own coal "cellar"?
Doesn't Bulgaria wish she had "kept the piece"?
What's the good of an Ulster with empty pockets?
Isn't the Labour Party minus both cash and "credit"?
Have you seen that wonderful Football Offer on page 243?
Won't the Chicago policewomen be well "looked after"?
Wouldn't votes for women be a sad blow for the building trade?
Would *any* policeman be plucky enough to attack *two* suffragettes?
Is "Leave it to you, partner," the best solution in the Mediterranean?
Has the Royal Academy been feeling the competition of the other "pictures"?

* * *

Definitions:—

Aviator.—The air hog of the future.
Baby.—A starter in the human race.
Sun.—A fresh figure in the world's revolutions.
Puppy.—A young animal that requires frequent licking.
Pessimist.—A man who is only happy when he is miserable.
Election.—The great friend of the printer and pie-crust maker.
Motorist.—The Colossus of Roads. The autocrat of the autocar.
Moral Victory.—What you achieve when the other chap beats you.
Pole.—A point on the earth's surface that is literally all imagination.
Equanimity.—The feeling with which you regard other folks' trouble.
Club.—Prehistoric man's weapon before marriage and the modern man's after.
Bear.—The term a lady applies to a man who doesn't seem inclined to hug her.
Jealousy.—The poison in which Cupid, during a misanthropic mood, dipped some of his arrows.
Cycle.—The modern Pilgrim's Progress, translated from Bunion and circulated by all ped(d)lars.
Company.—An institution whereby seven men may enrich themselves at the expense of millions. The candle of the investing moth.
Whist.—A game of cards, with intervals introduced between each hand to enable partners to swear at each other for their respective faults in play.
Suffragette.—A lady who thinks the man doth protest too much and is desirous of doing her share. One of whom it may be said that her unrealised ambition to make her cross has made her cross.

* * *

Expressions of Regret:—

Alexander the Great.—That I did not live to see the New World discovered.
Hercules—That I cannot have a try at the Augean stables of English politics.
Henry VIII.—That I did not live in an age when divorce was more respectable.
Napoleon.—That I did not live during the aeroplane period; to have invaded perfidious "Albion" would then have been an easy matter.
Columbus.—That during my time it was not known there was a North or South Pole.
Shakespeare.—That I did not postpone my earthly existence until after Bacon's demise.
Walter Raleigh.—That the dangers of the tobacco habit were unknown when I began using the weed.
Nebuchadnezzar.—That the modern breakfast foods were not invented at the time I took to grass.

* * *

Overheard:—

"Those Burglars are still at it in Greece."
"There are plenty of Navy cranks that need oiling."
"I hear all this to-do in Africa is over a Kaffir Circus."
"What's this talk of having monkeys to ride instead of jockeys?"
"What's all this rot in the *Referee* about man turning into a carnation?"
"I suppose when that Panama Canal's ready, straw hats 'll be cheaper?"
"If Sievier understands 'orse weights, 'e ought ter understand 'oxton."
"What a wonderful man that writing chap, Barrie, is. He won the sculling championship the other day."
"Too Many 'Taxis,'" reads a heading. More bad spelling.

* * *

Blood may be thicker than water, but the latter usually runs smoothest.

* * *

"I'm stony-broke," murmured the shop-window after the suffragette raid.

* * *

£45,000 is *not* the record for a horse. Richard III. offered a kingdom for one.

* * *

When downhearted, read the obituary notices—and be thankful you're alive.

* * *

"Mistake in a Skull," reads a news heading. That is where they are usually made.

* * *

The only hole the golfing beginner finds a difficulty in getting into is the one on the green.

* * *

There was an earthquake tremor recently at Gibraltar. But it's always on the rock.

* * *

If you bite the hand that feeds you, don't be surprised to find poison in the next meal.

* * *

The badness of English main roads is being discussed. The subject should be "taken up."

* * *

The fire at the Welcome Club, Earl's Club, was so unwelcome that it was promptly put out.

* * *

The harvest in some parts is exceptionally early, we are told. Our corn was cut two months ago.

* * *

"Chop your hair like a lawn," is a hairdresser's remedy for thinning locks. Shear nonsense.

* * *

A bottle-nosed shark has been caught at Scarborough. Several are absent from the City just now.

* * *

A six-year-old boy, while playing in a field, swallowed seven frogs. We hope he won't "croak."

* * *

It is said that ambitious suffragettes are anxious to break Mr. McKenna's head. Nothing in it.

* * *

"Good manners have a commercial value," says Lord Rosebery. But so few people stock them.

* * *

Some manuscripts by Robt. Burns recently fetched £3 a line. But "Ballets" are better than Burns.

* * *

A Reigate schoolgirl has been presented with a watch for punctuality. Why not an alarm clock?

* * *

Chinese M.P.s have voted themselves £600 a year. They evidently intend to make a good job of it.

* * *

An American lecturer says baby talk is bad for the little ones. Quite right; they learn to talk rot soon enough.

* * *

The imprisoned militants are now trying a "sleep strike." They must mind they are not caught "napping."

* * *

The woman fined for disorderly conduct at Acton on her birthday is not anxious for "Many happy returns."

* * *

A pair of corsets were recently deposited as security for a loan of seven shillings. But some have a bust up on less.

* * *

The streets of Nice and Lyons are to be paved with glass. Here is a chance for the militants to do a "star" turn.

* * *

"The result of taking drinks is to run to fat," says a doctor. But people who take too many have a tendency to lean!

* * *

"The German is brought up on rules," says Price Collier. The one he takes most exception to is "Rule Britannia."

* * *

A trout is reported to have jumped into a punt at Thames Ditton. There must have been another "flapper" in it.

* * *

Five butchers answered judgment summonses at Wandsworth the other morning. It seems hard to make ends meet there.

* * *

The suggested Amalgamated Society of Policemen should have no lack of funds; every town would contribute a few "coppers."

* * *

"Crime is a good thing," says Professor Moore. "I trust new crimes will always arise." They certainly will, if such views become general.

Cricket "wind-up" Contest. **Final Coupon on page 244.**

OUR FIRST NEW-SEASON FOOTBALL CONTEST.

Fifteen Hundred Pounds!

This week we commence the first of our New Season Football Contests. For our initial test of Football skill we offer the mammoth cash prize of £1,500 with huge cash contingent prizes amounting to £550, including a special lady's prize of £100 and an unlimited number of Football Season Tickets—the most attractive Football prize offer ever made. Send in your entries now and get your football friends to enter.

£300 FOR NEAREST FORECASTS SHORT OF FULL NUMBER.

£150 FOR NEXT HIGHEST CORRECT.

£100 FOR A MAUVE COUPON.

In addition to our mammoth cash offer we shall award an unlimited number of Football Season Tickets. Every competitor sending an Entrance Form giving 16 or more correct forecasts will be awarded one of these special prizes—which will enable the winners to witness every match at any Football Ground they may select during the whole season under comfortable conditions and free of all expense.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, WE SHALL AWARD AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF

FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS AS PRIZES

TO SENDERS OF 16 OR MORE CORRECT FORECASTS.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO is to forecast the results of the 20 League Games to be played on **Saturday, September 6th,** given on the Entrance Form on page 2 of our cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw, do not cross out either team.

£1,500 will be paid to the Competitor sending us an Entrance Form containing correct forecasts of all the matches given, played to a finish, even if THE NUMBER BE ONLY 8 OR 10.

The RULES and

COUPON

will be found

on

PAGE 2 of COVER.

Abandoned Matches make No Difference.

In the event of no Entrance Form being received giving the whole of the correct results

£300 IN CASH

will be paid to the competitor giving most correct forecasts short of the full number. We shall also pay as a further prize

£150 IN CASH

to the competitor sending the next highest number of correct forecasts, and **£100 in cash** will be paid to the lady sending in most correct forecasts on a *mauve* coupon taken from *Mary Bull*. Thus, should it happen that the first prize of £1,500 be not won, we shall, in any event, still award the £300 as well as the £150, and a lady must win a huge cash prize by using a *Mary Bull* mauve coupon.

In addition an unlimited number of unique Football prizes will be awarded. To every competitor sending 16 or more correct forecasts we shall award a Season ticket to any Football ground the competitor may select. *Winners of these special prizes have the option of choosing the cash value of the ticket.*

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE, and any number can be enclosed in the same envelope, but every coupon must be signed by the person making the forecasts.

NO FEES!

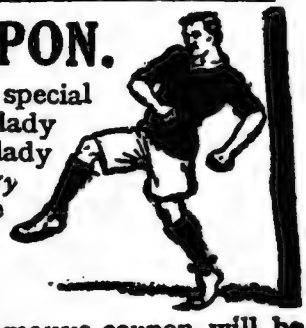
NO GOALS!

Required.

The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of studying the football columns of the daily papers.

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

£100 FOR A "MAUVE" COUPON.



We cordially invite all our lady readers to enter and to take advantage of our special prize offer for ladies only. We shall pay the huge sum of £100 in cash to the lady sending in an Entrance Form giving more correct forecasts than any other lady competitor, *providing the Entrance Form is a mauve one taken from "Mary Bull."* By using a mauve coupon lady competitors have the same opportunity as JOHN BULL competitors of winning the £1,500, or the £300 and the £150, but *in addition* a mauve coupon means the additional advantage of our £100 special lady's prize offer. Thus a "mauve" coupon *must win* a huge cash prize. The first mauve coupon will be found in *Mary Bull*, on sale Friday, August 15. You can send in as many mauve coupons as you like.

THE MOST ATTRACTIVE FOOTBALL PRIZE OFFER EVER MADE.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 250, where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other valuable prizes.

PERSECUTED POLICE.

WHERE ROBERT'S LOT IS NOT A HAPPY ONE.

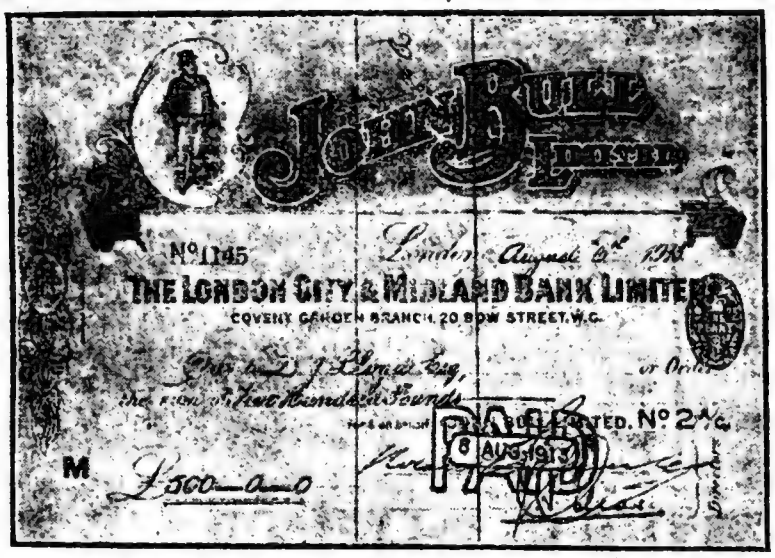
The dissatisfaction in the Surrey Constabulary is spreading in a manner which seriously threatens the administration of the law in the county. The main cause seems to be that many of the chief officials are continuing at their posts despite the fact that years ago they attained the age limit. The Standing Joint Committee does not seem inclined to compel these hindrances to subordinates to resign, and thus clear the way for men looking forward to promotion. Many of the rank and file have in disgust left the force, forfeiting, of course, all that they have paid towards their superannuation—very frequently a considerable sum, as in one case a man had put in thirteen years' service. The sense of wrong must be absolutely intolerable to cause a man to start life afresh in this way, and make so heavy a monetary sacrifice. Probably "pin pricks" have a good deal to do with the wholesale resignations, the treatment of the constables by the heads of the force being marked by almost inconceivable stupidity. For instance, a man was found to have worn out his trousers before the expiration of the year; an order was therefore circulated that all the men should change into *mufti* as soon as they came off duty—and this, despite the fact that a policeman's uniform is one of his greatest assets in the preservation of order, and when his services are required his immediate attendance is almost invariably of the utmost importance. Anybody summoning the village policeman from his cottage now, however, will have to wait until he has changed his things!

There is, too, little encouragement to constables to make big captures in the absence of their superior officers. No wonder that for thirty-five crimes committed with violence against property, only seven persons have been brought to justice!

OUR 42ND "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

HAVERFORDWEST BUSINESS MAN GAINS £500.

Mr. David J. Lloyd, of 5, Spring Gardens, Haverfordwest, the winner of our 42nd "Bullets" Competition, when acknowledging the receipt of the cheque for £500, is naturally somewhat exuberant in expressing his delight at the great windfall. He tells us that he has been a reader of JOHN BULL for several years, and has taken a keen interest in the "Bullets" Competitions, having



entered for the last six months and won several consolation prizes. The compilation of his efforts in his spare time, he assures us, has provided him with much pleasure and intellectual profit. Mr. Lloyd, who is 32 years of age, and married, is a draper, being a member of "Commerce House," a prominent business establishment in Haverfordwest.

The original of the above cheque will be displayed at the premises of Mr. L. Brigstocke, Bookseller and Stationer, Market Street, Haverfordwest, during the week commencing August 18th; while the £50 cheque for the second prize, awarded to Mr. Harry Joseph Rutledge, a member of the staff of Sussex Street P.O., Middlesbrough, will be shown by Messrs. J. Parkin, Ltd., 211, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.

OUR FINAL CRICKET CONTEST

CLOSES MONDAY, AUGUST 18.

£1,000

FOR ALL FORECASTS CORRECT.

£150	£50
For Most Correct short of Full Number	For a Mauve Coupon.

OUR wind-up Cricket Contest closes Monday next, August 18. The second—and Final—Coupon appears below. This is your last opportunity this season of winning Cricket Prize Money. Fill in the Coupon now! The rules governing the Competition will be found in last week's issue.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO.

On the Coupon below you will find Matches to be played on dates between August 18th and August 29th.

Cross out in ink the club you think will lose. If you predict a draw do not cross out either club.

Matches commenced and unfinished count as draws. If both sides score an equal number of runs the match will be regarded as being drawn.

Matches not commenced at all, not a single ball being bowled, will be ignored.

£1,000 WILL BE PAID to the competitor sending us an Entrance Form giving a correct forecast of all the matches given. In the unlikely event of no entrance form being received containing all the correct forecasts, we shall award the huge sum of **£150 IN CASH** to the competitor sending most correct forecasts, even if the number be only 8 or 10. In addition we shall award **£50 IN CASH** to the Lady Competitor sending most correct forecasts on a Mauve Coupon from "Mary Bull."

You can send in as many entries as you like.

"JOHN BULL" FINAL CRICKET Entrance Form.

Matches starting on August 18 to August 29.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

MATCHES.

Notts	v.	Middlesex
Warwickshire	v.	Surrey
Worcestershire	v.	Lancashire
Yorkshire	v.	Essex
Hampshire	v.	Somerset
Worcestershire	v.	Surrey
Sussex	v.	Gloucestershire
Warwickshire	v.	Middlesex
Lancashire	v.	Essex
Derbyshire	v.	Notts
Middlesex	v.	Worcestershire
Kent	v.	Northampton
Gloucestershire	v.	Surrey
Sussex	v.	Warwickshire
Hampshire	v.	Yorkshire
Middlesex	v.	Kent
Surrey	v.	Leicestershire
Sussex	v.	Yorkshire
Somerset	v.	Worcestershire
Hampshire	v.	Gloucestershire
Northamptonshire	v.	Warwickshire

I enter JOHN BULL Cricket Competition in accordance with the rules announced in last week's issue, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address.....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

After you have filled up your Entries for the above Cricket Competition,

Turn to Page 243,

and read all about our

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This book is issued in sections, all containing the same introductory matter, and in addition, each dealing with one particular subject, such as:

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SHATTERED NERVES

With Lung and Stomach Troubles.

An Army Man's Remarkable Cure by

DR. CASSELL'S TABLETS

Mr. Morris, Trealaw.

For 18 years MR. JOHN MORRIS, who resides at 75, CEMETERY ROAD, TREALAW, RHONDDA, GLAM., was a member of the old 3rd Batt. South Wales Borderers, and during this time Mr. Morris enjoyed excellent health; he attended the annual training camps regularly, and enjoyed to the full the delights of life under canvas. There came a time, however, when Mr. Morris found life a burden—when he could not sleep and felt weary and listless; when his appetite failed him and his body began to waste away. On August 8th, 1912, Mr. Morris wrote:—

"For ten long months I suffered severe pains around the heart. I felt weary and tired, and life was quite a burden. I lost my appetite, and my flesh began to waste away. My nerves were terribly run down, and I was startled at the slightest noise. I tried several so-called remedies and not one did me any good whatever. I had almost despaired of ever getting well again, when a neighbour of ours recommended me to take Dr. Cassell's Tablets. She also gave me a few to try. After taking them I thought I felt a little better, so I bought a bottle of them. After taking two bottles I noticed I did not feel so tired; I could sleep better, and my general health began to improve. I took four bottles in all, and now I feel hale and hearty once more."

Dr. Cassell's Tablets act more brilliantly than any other medicine known in cases of Nervous Breakdown, Anæmia, Debility, Sleeplessness, Nerve Pains, Heart Weakness, Kidney and Stomach Disorders, Children's Weakness, Spinal and Nerve Paralysis, and general bodily fatigue, brain fag, and all run-down conditions. Send 2d. to-day to Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd. (Box A24), Chester Road, Manchester, for a free sample. All Chemists sell Dr. Cassell's Tablets at 10½d. 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

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through parts Unknown to the White Man.

Farewell Greeting by HIS MAJESTY, KING GEORGE V., who expressed his personal interest in this Gigantic Undertaking.

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BRITISH SCHOOL OF MOTORING

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HOLIDAY JACKETS: in Donegal Tweeds and Scotch Homespuns, easy and comfortable, with plenty of room for free movement, yet keep their shape; In every fitting to suit any figure and "Ready-for-Service." at **30/-** and **25/-**

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CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Letter Box, see page 248.*]

The Stock Markets.

As we anticipated, the Stock Markets have developed considerable strength, and this is all the more notable in view of the fact that the holiday season is at its height, and that we are in the midst of another Stock Exchange settlement. The Bears have been very roughly handled, especially in the mining sections, where Kaffirs, Rhodesians, Diamonds and Coppers have shown up to the greatest advantage. The Copper market is going in the way that we have anticipated for some time past, and Standard Copper has now reached nearly £70 per ton. A very considerable amount of gold has gone into the Bank of England, which assures comparative monetary ease for some time to come, especially as large sums have gone into the provinces, which will eventually come back again. This circumstance, combined with the excellent Board of Trade returns for July, is giving rise to very favourable anticipations as regards home securities, notably Home Rails, and as yields are still at an unprecedentedly high level, it would not be surprising to see a further improvement in quotations. American Rails have held their own fairly well, considering the less favourable crop reports and the Mexican political anxieties. The Oil market is steadily broadening, and in addition to Mexican Eagles and Shell Transports, other descriptions are now also coming into demand. The latest news from the Maikop field is very favourable, the Maikop Midland and the Maikop Premier having both struck oil in their No. 4 wells. Now comes the news that active drilling is in progress on the Maikop Victory, and that a very considerable increase in the output is expected in the near future. An unpleasant surprise for the Bears has been provided in rubber shares, the movement being led by Rubber Plantation Trusts, where the decline had certainly been overdone, and a feature has been the rise in Vallambrosa under the influence of the statements made at the recent meeting. Tin shares are slowly gathering strength, and if the improvement in the metal is maintained, and the Nigerian outputs continue to expand, we may well have a boomlet in these shares.

Oil in South Africa.

We are officially informed that Mr. Cunningham Craig, the Government oil expert, arrives at Ceres—in which district, it will be remembered, are situated the properties controlled by the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Ltd.—on Thursday of this week, and will be accompanied by Mr. J. E. Mills Davies, the company's consulting engineer. This effectually disposes of the rumours which have been so prevalent, that Mr. Craig had already visited the district. We shall make a point of keeping our readers advised of developments.

Hitchy (Chilla) Goe!

We referred some time ago to the manner in which the board of the Chillagoe Company, Limited, registered in Victoria, rushed through the recent reconstruction without giving the European shareholders an opportunity of lodging an effective protest against it, or being represented at the meetings called to carry the scheme. To-day, we have to chronicle an attempt on the part of the same board to reconstruct the Etheridge Gold Mines, Limited, a subsidiary of the Chillagoe, registered in Melbourne only 2½ years ago. It was in December, 1910, that the directors of the Chillagoe sold to themselves, as directors of the Etheridge, four properties belonging to the former, at a price fixed by themselves, as directors of the vendor Company, and agreed to by themselves as directors of the purchasing Company. At the last annual meeting of the latter, the chairman of both concerns held out hopes to the shareholders of the Etheridge that profitable returns were within measurable distance, and the board now comes forward with a scheme by which a fresh liability of 4s. on each 10s. share is to be shouldered by the shareholders. As the Company is registered in Melbourne, it will be impossible for shareholders over here to combine for the purpose of having the causes of this debâcle investigated; and the directors' proposals will, no doubt, be rushed through on the other side as was the third reconstruction of the Chillagoe. The lesson still to be learnt by the British investor is to shun all undertakings which are not registered in Great Britain, or, at any rate, not to take shares in any concern where the vendors and purchasers are not independently represented.

Another Alleyn Plant.

Three years ago, Mr. Henry Mathew Alleyn, after he and his co-vendors had expended large sums on an advertising campaign of an invisible castor (what has become of it?), floated a company called Domes of Silence, Limited, with a capital of £135,000, he and his associates receiving no less than £45,000 for the goodwill and assets of the business. The company has never paid a dividend. Now we find the same Mr. Alleyn, after he and his partners have expended enormous sums on an advertising campaign of a plant food, has formed a company called (New) Plantoids, Limited, with a capital of £30,000, the vendors receiving £12,500 for the goodwill and "business." £5,000 is to paid for goodwill; but what the business consists of is not apparently disclosed, as the company is to pay cash for the plant and machinery, furniture, fixtures, fittings (cost £452 16s. 10d.), and stock-in-trade at cost price. The advertised abridged prospectus gives the gross profits for 13½ months' trading at £7,970, but is eloquently silent as to how much of this sum represents net profits—if any. The advertising campaign cost close on £5,000, and the directors appear to base their estimate that the profits of the company for the first year will be £2,500 upon the assumption that this "pioneer expenditure" will not recur. We remember a similar calculation having been made in the Domes of Silence prospectus, and, as already stated, it has been completely falsified by events. The Domes of Silence, so far as dividends are concerned, have become silent, and (New) Plantoids, Limited, appears to us to be a plant of the same kind.

The Eagle Amalgamation Abandoned.

Just as we are going to press we learn that the proposed amalgamation of the "Eagle" with the "Yorkshire" has been abandoned. We congratulate the shareholders upon the fact, and are glad that our recent friendly protest was not made in vain.

A Projected Rubber Trust.

We understand that an important Antwerp group of financiers is actively occupied endeavouring to bring about a powerful trust for the purpose of standardising the price of rubber and regulating its output, there being at present a fear that, unless some such step is taken, the market price will show a further heavy fall before the end of the year.

The Traffic Monopolies.

It is some months since we announced the then impending formation of Trusts to swallow up our underground and overground traffic. Since then the Tubes have combined as regards the former, and the General Omnibus Co. has swallowed up its principal competitors as regards the other, and then formed a working arrangement with the Tubes. And now we have an amalgamation of some leading taxi-cab companies, the British Motor-Cab Co. having arranged to absorb the ill-fated General Motor-Cab Co. and the New Motor-Cab Co. How ill-fated the General Motor-Cab Co. has been was shown in our issue of January 4th, when we went fully into its financial position. Not only will the absorption of the two companies be harmful to the public, inasmuch as it will create another Trust, but also because the General Motor-Cab Co. will be dissolved without a most necessary investigation into its affairs taking place. That such an inquiry should be held we conclusively proved.

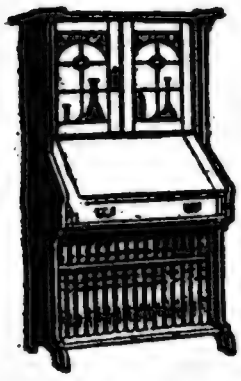
The Parson and the Pirate.

When next the Reverend John T. Williams, of Penlovn, Llanrwst, Denbigh, addresses his parishioners, he might well relate to them his experiences with the notorious William Elliott Delaney, *alias* the Systematic Investment Co., to whom we have referred so frequently of late. The reverend gentleman, by his solicitor, informed Judge Lumley Smith, in the City of London Court last week, that he sent Delaney £40 on the strength of the latter's circulars promising investors at least 250 per cent. per annum profit. Needless to say he got nothing in return, except the judgment just recorded in his favour. We shall be glad to know how the reverend gentleman reconciles his dealings with Delaney with the precepts which he is paid to instil into the minds of his flock, especially the one about laying up treasure in this world. Not that Mr. Williams is in danger of infringing that rule—at any rate in his transactions with Delaney, and persons of that kidney.

Law Car and General.

We continue to receive complaints from "A" shareholders that they have not been settled with, and we hear of an important move on the part of some of the large "B" shareholders to test the liability of the directors.

"Bullets"—the Holiday Competition. Prizes value £1,750 weekly.



Quaint Oak Bureau with fall front. The top part is fitted with leaded light glass doors.
£2 17s. 6d.

Oak Adjustable Chair of charming design covered in tapestry.
£1 6s. 6d.

Special Department for Second-hand Furniture.

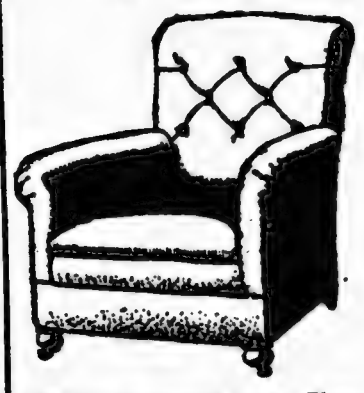
It's because I am a business man

that I go to the "Midland" Furnishing Co. whenever I want anything for my house, whether it's a whole new suite, or just a piece of plate, or linen, or china. I want the best value for every penny I spend; and at the "Midland" I get it. For as the "Midland" are actual manufacturers, they save the usual intermediate profit and are enabled to sell at the lowest prices compatible with real sterling quality. That's why

Money buys more at the "Midland."

They charge nothing for credit, either—no deposit, no interest—nothing but the prices plainly marked on every article. And if the purchaser who avails himself of their Ideal Terms should die **all the furniture goes to the wife without further payment.** That is to say, you can furnish out of income and practically insure your life meanwhile, yet without spending a penny on premiums. And the "Midland" also **insures the furniture against fire** free of charge.

Fumed Oak Bureau 2 ft. 2in. wide, 3 ft. 6 in. high, 9 in. deep. Exceptional value.
£1 1s. 0d.



Well-upholstered Divan Easy Chair, with spring edge seat. Covered in Rexine. Price
£2 19s. 6d.

Railway Fares Paid.

Customers' fares to town paid on orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free.

Well-made Bedroom Suite in Oak, handsomely designed. A typical example of "Midland" value. With 2 rush-seated chairs. **£6 6s. 0d.**

Terms.

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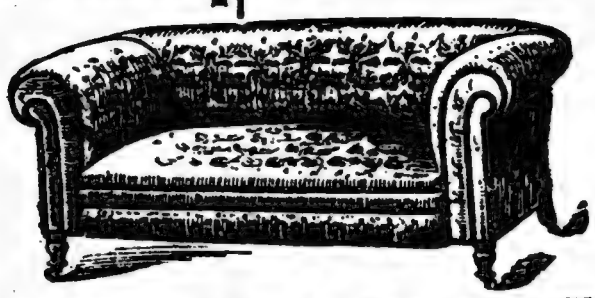
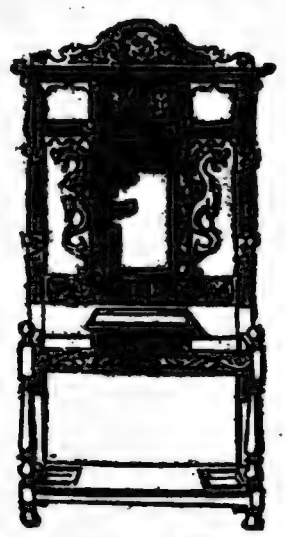
£10 ...	£0 6 0
£20 ...	0 11 0
£30 ...	0 17 0
£40 ...	1 5 0
£50 ...	1 8 0
£100 ...	2 5 0
£200 ...	4 10 0
£500 ...	11 5 0

Larger amounts pro rata.

10% additional Discount for Cash.



Well-upholstered Chesterfield Settee, with or without drop ends as desired. Thoroughly well sprung and covered with various shades of art tapestry.
£4 14s. 6d.



Carved Oak Hall Stand, with bevelled plate. This is polished a rich antique brown, 3 ft. wide, 6 ft. high, 1 ft. deep. **£2 5s. 0d.**

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If you cannot call in person, send a postcard with your full name and address to the Midland Furnishing Co., Ltd. We will send you by return our Book of Furniture, richly illustrated with over 1,000 photographs and coloured plates.

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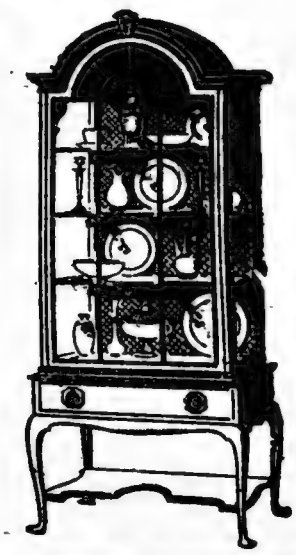


A charming mahogany China Cabinet in Queen Anne style, with handsome shaped top and serpentine fronted shelves. Lined with silk 6 ft. 3 in. high, 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 1 ft. 4 in. deep.
£10 10s. 0d.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

Law, Car and General.—O. M. (South Norwood).—As a "B" shareholder we think your best course is to communicate with Messrs Lloyd, Richardson and Co., 3, Howard Street, Strand, W.C.

Panama Bond.—Mrs. B. (Sheffield).—So far as we can ascertain, these Bonds do not seem to be of any value. You should, however, place yourself in communication with Messrs. N. Keizer and Co., foreign bankers, 29, Threadneedle Street, London, E.C., who will be able to tell you their exact value, if any.

James Keith and Blackman.—E. J. R. (Burnham).—This Company's dividend has risen to 8 per cent. for the year 1911-12; but there is no regular market for the shares, which, in any case, can only be described as a fair Industrial holding. We cannot advise on the standing of provincial stockbrokers.

Robinson and Co. (16-18, Avenue Chambers, Southampton Row, W.C.).—M. W. (High Barnet).—We are obliged to you for sending these people's letter of August 1, in which they state that you have "evidently overlooked the 'ecarte' of five points according to the contract sent you." We know of no such term as "ecarte," but imagine they must mean that you are "in the cart." Under no circumstances should you send them any more money for "renewing the deal." Had you read our previous warnings you would have had nothing to do with these people, and thus saved your money.——J. H. H. (Newport, Mon.).—Do not part with your certificate, and decline to have anything further to do with this firm.

John Bull Bank.—L, J. (Birmingham).—No, we are not "running the show," but we are in a position to vouch for its soundness and bonâ fides.——Trader (London).—The "John Bull" Bank, Old Jewry, would doubtless render you the assistance you require.

Ankobra Rubber Estates.—Deceived.—The solicitors acting for the plaintiff in the action of Hewitt *versus* Directors of the Ankobra Rubber Estates are Messrs. Torr and Co., of 38, Bedford Row, W.C., and we should suggest that you communicate with them.

Galician Oil, Burbanks, Simmer Deep.—C. F. P. (Aberdeen).—The best chances of the future are considered to lie in Oils, and in these circumstances Galician Oil Trusts offer the greatest prospect for the investment of your £10.

Safe Security.—A Regular Reader.—You can get a satisfactory yield in absolutely safe securities without confining yourself entirely to Home stocks. For instance, you can buy Western Australian 4 per cent. Bonds (a trustee security), at 99, yielding 4⅛ per cent. per annum, while the return of capital is safeguarded by the fact that the Bonds are redeemable in 1942-1962.

Bissagos Oil Palm and Cotton Plantations.—D. G. W. (Gillingham).—No recent information is available with regard to this Company. The secretary is Mr. F. J. Turner, at 512, Salisbury House, London, E.C., and he, together with the directors of the Company, will be well advised if they now issue some statement as to its position and prospects for your benefit, as well as for that of the other shareholders. There is no market in the shares.

London Housing Society.—E. P. (Manchester).—This is an obscure concern. We should be sorry to recommend an investment in it without the fullest details of its position and prospects.

Redeemable Investments.—Mortice.—(1) Argentine Estates of Bovril Debentures are a fair Industrial holding, but cannot be described as "perfectly safe." (2) The City of Montreal 4½ per cent. Loans are redeemable 1951-2. We should, however, prefer to either of these securities Colonial Government Bonds of the gilt-edged category, such as Western Australian 4 per cent. Bonds, at 99, redeemable 1942-1962.

Para Electrics, Galician Standard Oil.—H. W. (South Kensington).—We do not recommend an investment in the first-named, as regards the other, in the present state of our information, we think well of its prospects.

£300 Loan.—Finance.—Why not go to your bankers or to an Insurance Company, who may be relied upon for fair treatment? You might also apply to the Trust you mention.

Britannic Assurance Company.—M. W. (Holloway).—We should recommend you to call at the Finsbury Branch and explain your views, and let us know how you get on. We do not think your having signed a proposal form in the circumstances you mention would prejudice your claim for a refund of the premiums under the policy, which apparently gives you no legal title or consideration for the monies you have paid.

City Life Assurance Company.—T. J.—The "Ideal" is an excellent policy in every way. Write to the head office of the Company, 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, London, E.C., for particulars.

Warrington Assurance and Burial Society.—Stretton.—We observe that a Policy has not been issued, and that claims are being paid on the production of the Club card. As you have made all the payments in connection with the assurance, and the Society have accepted these premiums from you, they must admit you as the legal claimant. You had better see a solicitor and get a cheque made payable to you in exchange for that already issued.

Law Integrity Insurance Company.—W. D. (Shrewsbury).—We should make another selection.

Mutual Life and Citizens' Assurance Company.—H. A. C. (Rushden).—We see no objection to your holding an agency or investing in one of their policies.

British Workers' Compensation and Legal Aid Association.—Cymro Tawe.—We have no information regarding this Association, which, we observe, is said to have been established in 1900. We are not impressed with its literature. The names of the officers or directors are not stated, nor is any information given respecting its financial position. The free travelling and other benefits we observe are guaranteed by the Regal Fire and Accident Company, which is a respectable institution, but we could not recommend you to accept an agency for the Association until we know more about it.

Assurance Policy.—Urgent.—Your wife holds a policy on the life of her father, and she may dispose of it by will, or otherwise, without your consent. You would not be entitled to claim a return of the premiums paid in the event of her prior decease. Subject to your wife's approval, doubtless the Company would be willing to accept the future premiums from you and cause an endorsement to be made on the policy that it is held for your benefit

Liverpool Victoria Legal Friendly Society.—W. J. (Liverpool).—Whether or not the Board of Management could compel you to sell your book on the ground that you are not sending them sufficient amount of new business depends upon the conditions of your agreement. The Society must not arbitrarily deprive you of it, otherwise you could claim compensation.

The Manufacturers' Life Assurance Company.—Risa.—You need have no hesitation in applying for one of their policies.

Refuge Insurance Company.—Reekie.—You do not say on whose life the policy was issued and under what circumstances it was obtained. The burning of the policy does not affect the validity of the assurance. A duplicate can be obtained subject to the usual letter of indemnity being given

Provident Association of London.—W. G. T. (Manchester).—According to Condition 8 of the House Property Certificate the liability of the Company ceases, and all subscriptions paid are forfeited if the subscriptions remain unpaid for a period of three months. It is clear, therefore, that, the certificate having lapsed, you cannot demand that it shall be revived. In any event, many restrictions and disadvantages are imposed in respect of acquired or transferred certificates, and, in the circumstances, we are disposed to recommend you not to waste further time over the matter.

Liverpool Mutual Insurance Society.—Sarnite.—We have no information respecting this Society, which transacts "insurance against accidents." You had better apply for their last issued report and balance-sheet. The prospectus you enclose is unusual in the sense that, instead of the names of the directors, we have a "Board of Reference." Are we to understand that the Society is not controlled by a Board of Directors? And no information is given as regards capital, and nothing is published giving any indication of its financial resources or income.

Pearl Life Assurance Company.—C. E. A. (Gloucester).—We note the statement of the Joint Managing Director that "we decline to return any premiums whatever, and you may take what action you think fit." The case presents some extraordinary features. Your sister before her death handed you six policies on the life of your father. In respect of five of them she was the proposer. You decided to continue four of them, the object you had in view being to meet expenses in the event of the death of the assured. You consulted the agent as to the procedure to be adopted, and he informed you that it would be quite safe for you to pay. On this understanding you paid premiums for twelve months, when the agent refused to receive any further contributions on the ground that your father objected. In these circumstances, you requested the Company to return the premiums you had paid, and the application has been refused. Upon inquiry, your father states that he objected because he heard that you would have nothing to do with the expenses in the event of his death, and this statement, you say, is an untruth. It is clear that you acted throughout on the advice of the agent, and in the circumstances we are of opinion that you could recover the premiums paid by you. Consult a solicitor.——C. B. (Trent Vale).—Your sons insured the life of their father for £10 19s. and £7 6s. respectively. A claim having arisen, the Company, you say, have paid only £7 19s. and £5 6s. You do not tell us what reason they have given for not paying the full sums assured. Let us have this information.

Royal London Friendly Society.—Mrs. M. (Leicester).—The policy on the life of your husband's uncle was issued without his consent, and you have no "insurable interest," but as the policy was taken out prior to the Act of 1909, absence of insurable interest does not invalidate it, provided you had at the time a bonâ-fide belief that you would incur expenses in connection with the death or funeral of the assured. If such, however, was not the case, the premiums are, in our opinion, recoverable.

Hearts of Oak Benefit Society.—W. C. (Fulham).—We have frequently pointed out that the absence of provision for payment of cash surrender values, after a member has contributed a few years, or the issue of fully paid up policies, causing the forfeiture of the premiums paid in the event of a policy lapsing, constitutes a real hardship and inflicts grave injustice upon the industrial poor of the community. You have no legal redress.

INSURANCE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the enormous number of enquiries we receive on Insurance matters, our readers will appreciate the difficulty which confronts us in giving prompt replies. Indeed, the congestion has become so great that we have decided to depart from the rule we have hitherto observed of replying only through this column, and to answer by post. Correspondents, therefore, who fail to find replies to their enquiries on this page may expect to hear from us by letter with as little delay as possible.

Thousands delighted with the "John Bull" Pen. Had your's yet?

The Graves System of Business ensures satisfaction.

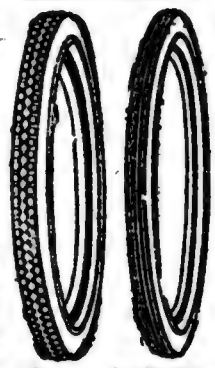
GRAVES

Goods delivered on receipt of small payment.

GENUINE CLINCHER TYRES

We supply this world-renowned make of Tyre at rock-bottom cash prices on Easy Terms. Any grade of 'Clincher' Tyres supplied to approved orders for small payment with order and the balance to be completed in equal monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied after full examination at your own home.

ON EASY TERMS AT CASH PRICES.



The 'Clincher' B Motor Cycle Tyre with beaded edge. Cover only.
26 x 2 .. 21/- 3/6 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. 27/6 4/7 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' A Won Motor Cycle Tyre. Beaded edge. Cover only.
26 x 2 .. 22/3 4/9 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. 31/7 5/3 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. 36/2 6/- Monthly.

The 'Clincher' De Luxe Rubber Studded Non-Skid Motor Cycle Tyre, made with beaded edge only. Single Covers supplied in the following sizes:
26 x 2½ .. 29/- 6/6 Monthly.
26 x 2½ (to fit 2½ rim) 45/6 7/7 Monthly.
26 x 2½ .. 47/6 7/11 Monthly.

J. G. Graves Ltd. Sheffield.

The 'Clincher' Popular Tyre. Wired or beaded edge as ordered. Size, 28 x 1½ only. Cover and Tube. 11/3 2/3 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' B Tyre. Wired edge. Supplied in all standard sizes. Cover and Tube, 13/1 2/8 Monthly. Beaded edge, 3d. extra.

The 'Clincher' A Won Roadster Cycle Tyre, wired or beaded edge as ordered. Supplied in all standard sizes. Cover and Tube, 17/- 2/10 Monthly.

The 'Clincher' Vacuum Grooved Tyre, with wired or beaded edge, as ordered. Supplied in all standard sizes. Cover and Tube, 18/- 3/- Monthly.

Write for Catalogue. Send a post card to-day for our handsomely illustrated Catalogue of 'Clincher' Cycle and Motor Cycle Tyres, all of which we supply on easy terms at cash prices, from 7/6

GRAVES SUITS

MADE EXACTLY TO YOUR MEASURES. Delivered on receipt of small payment.

GRAVES SUITS embody all the essentials of a great tailoring success—good style, good taste, good value; and our Easy Monthly Payment Terms enable you to have your suit immediately on receipt of small payment with order and spread the cost over the next few months.

Write for Patterns. A Post Card sent to-day will bring you the finest display of Cloth Samples ever submitted at the price, and these cuttings from the cloth lengths which we are now making up will enable you to judge of the excellence of the materials we are using, and the undoubted superiority of design which characterises our cloths and commands the approval of the most fastidious customer. This unrivalled range of Cloth Samples of smart, gentlemanly suits priced at 35/- and 42/- include Tweeds, Cheviots, Worsted Serges, Plain Black and Blue Vicunas, and a splendid line in hard-wearing Yorkshire Suitings. Send a Postcard to-day.

Write to-day for our comprehensively **Illustrated Catalogue** of high-grade footwear for Men, Women, and Children. This book is illustrated throughout from direct photographs of the actual Boots and Shoes. Our selection is so extensive as to meet all tastes, and our prices suit all pockets. We supply any quantity of footwear on receipt of a small payment now, the balance being completed in equal monthly payments after the Boots have been examined and tried on in your own home.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES CYCLES.

10/ WITH ORDER.

WE DELIVER the Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe exactly to specification (Lady's or Gent's) carriage paid to all approved orders for 10/- Now, and Easy Monthly Payments after delivery until the account is cleared, if you are entirely delighted and satisfied with the machine after full examination at your own home.

SPECIFICATION.

REYNOLDS' STEEL TUBING
DUNLOP FIRST GRADE TYRES
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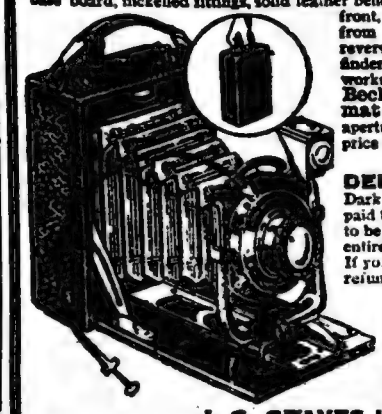
HANS RENOLD ROLLER CHAIN
BROOKS' PLATED SPRING SADDLE
WILLIAMS CHAIN WHEEL & CRANKS
HOFFMANNS' STEEL BALLS
DOVER GRIPS & LEVER TIPS

CATALOGUE FREE A Postcard to-day will bring you you per return our handsome Catalogue which exhibits a full range of Ladies' & Gent's Machines with detailed specifications

GRAVES 'SURBITON' HAND CAMERA

Folds up to 4½ x 3½ x 2½. The **Graves 'Surbiton' ¼-Plate Model.** Ebonised polished base board, nickelled fittings, solid leather bellows, solid aluminium cast stirrup shaped lens front, engraved focusing scale from 3 to 25 feet, and infinity, reversible oblong and upright view finder, variable speed shutter that works trigger and antinous release. **Beck Neostigmar Anastigmat Lens** series III n No. 3, aperture F.7.7. (maker's catalogue price of Lens £1 : 17 : 6).



5/ with order.

DELIVERED complete with two single Metal Dark Slides and waterproof carrying case carriage paid to approved orders for 5/- with order, balance to be paid in 11 monthly payments of 5/- if you are entirely satisfied after full examination and trial. If you are in any way disappointed we will instantly refund the whole of the money you have paid.

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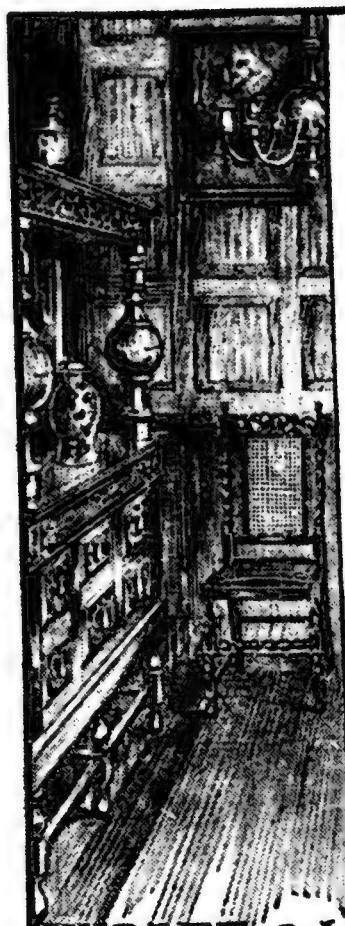
J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.



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HURRY UP AND WIN

ONE OF THE TWENTY AUGUST HOLIDAY PRIZES OF £5 EACH OFFERED THIS WEEK.

Second Prize £50

FIRST **£500** PRIZE

Third Prize £25

TWENTY HOLIDAY PRIZES OF £5 EACH.

50 CASH PRIZES OF 10s. EACH. **100 CASH PRIZES OF 5s. EACH.**

4,000 HANDSOME PRIZES VALUE £900

AND 1,000 CASH PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

SEASIDE ENGAGEMENT
ALWAYS AT HOME
ARRESTING SUFFRAGETTES
A BIG CRUSH
HOLIDAY HAUNTS
A BAD MISS
ELECTION PROMISES
BLUSHING
IN THE SWIM
PRISON BARS
FREAKS OF FASHION
WHEN AWAY
LOSING HIS HEAD
PLUCKED AGAIN
A HOT SUN
TILL EMPTY
BOND OF UNION
DOMESTIC TREASURE
MIXED FEELINGS
CAIN AND ABEL
KEEP SMILING
JUDGING BY APPEARANCES
COUNTRY COUSINS
RIGHTS AND WRONGS
MAKING PEACE
PAID IN FULL
STABLE SECRET
OUT OF SIGHT
TIPPING THE GUARD
A LOST ART
HUMAN NATURE
EVERY LITTLE HELPS
FOOTLIGHT FAVOURITE
OTHER PEOPLE'S TROUBLES
ACTIVE SERVICE
AFTER THE EVENT
CARRIES WEIGHT
MOST BECOMING
WITHOUT THINKING
BEYOND RECALL

"Bullets" is the leading skill competition with most prizes and is the ONLY Competition in which EVERY Coupon received is judged by TWO DIFFERENT ADJUDICATORS.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "A HOT SUN," and take the letters "H" and "T" using the word, "without" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "TRYING WITHOUT HAT." Or from the example, "HUMAN NATURE" the Bullet "MOST ERRATIC." can be formed. Again you take the example, "JUDGING BY APPEARANCES,' using the letter "R" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "RARELY PROVES RELIABLE."

Competitors may send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Competitors can see The "Bullets" Judges at work at any time.

Closing date, Wednesday, August 20th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(46) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 251.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated August 23th.

Closing date, Wednesday, August 20th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(46) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 251.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 46," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

No element of chance enters into the adjudication of our "Bullets" Competition. Every coupon is judged by TWO DIFFERENT Members of our special staff of Adjudicators, who have been selected by reason of their high qualification for this work. This staff put aside all coupons which they consider sufficiently meritorious to qualify for a prize. So that, before any coupon is rejected, TWO DIFFERENT Judges have to decide that it is not of sufficient merit to receive a prize. Then, all coupons selected are considered by the Competition Editor in consultation with the Judges. In this manner the coupons are reduced in number to correspond with the total number of prizes to be awarded. The Competition Editor, again in consultation with the Judges, next selects all the lines of outstanding merit. These are placed before the Editor, who, after consultation, decides finally the order of merit. This system of judging keeps a large staff of Adjudicators continually occupied the whole of the week—so thoroughly is the work done. We would point out that, by this system of judging, no award is decided arbitrarily by one mind. It is only after a line has been considered sufficiently meritorious by a BODY OF JUDGES IN CONSULTATION, all of whom are specially qualified for the work, that it can receive a cash or any other prize. As regards the principal prizes, the coupons of outstanding merit are considered many times by the Editor, and also by the Competition Editor and the adjudicating staff, in consultation, before the final awards are made. In a sentence, ALL coupons are read and considered, and re-read and re-considered, by a specially selected staff of highly-qualified Adjudicators, under the general supervision of an experienced Competition Expert—and in consultation with the Editor. That is why "Bullets" constitute a genuine skill contest, free from any and every element of arbitrary decision or of chance selection.

The Result of the above Competition will appear in our issue dated Sept. 6th.

RESULT OF 43RD BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:—

MISS MARGARET H. LEONARD,
1, Florence Place,
Priory Road, Tonbridge.

Example.—WEDDING MARCH.
Bullet.—"AISLE ALTAR HYMN."

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

MR. JAMES TELFER,
25, Worcester Street,
Barrow-in-Furness.

Example.—SEEING WIFE OFF.
Bullet.—EVEN ENGINE WHISTLED.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:—

MR. W. MITCHELL,
40, Agate Road,
Hammersmith, W.

Example.—A MONEYED FOOL.
Bullet.—ADVERTISED FOR DAILY.

50 HOLIDAY PRIZEWINNERS of £5 Each.

S. PARKES, Hudson Depot, 40 London Rd., Southampton: GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY—VILLAGE CONSTABLE'S EXPRESSION.
R. ROBERTS, 134, Barry Road, E. Dulwich, S.E.: SEEING WIFE OFF — "OVERTIME" CEASES SIMULTANEOUSLY.
R. T. SMITH, L.C. and Westminster Bank, Hastings: GOING TO LAW—NO CHEAP TRIPS.
A. ANSELL, 12, Bell Road, Seacombe, Ches. HER WINNING WAYS—WITH JURY WEIGHS.
S. SMITH, 13, Englefield Road, Dalston: BEYOND BELIEF—EARNINGS EQUAL YEARNINGS.
A GOULD, 57, Gloucester Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W. A LONG PULL—GOVERNMENT—COUNTRY'S LEG.
G. COCKELL, 173, Torridon Road, Catford, S.E.: WEDDING MARCH—WORRY'S CURTAIN RAISER.
REG. H. SMYTH, 83, High Street, Barnstaple: AWAY FROM HOME—"ELDER" BECOMES "YOUNGER."
H. G. PRICE, The Elms, Eagle Road, Wembley, Middlx. BEYOND BELIEF—INSURANCE DOCTOR DISENGAGED.
J. CLANCY, 1, Vernon Street, S.C. Road, Dublin. MOST CONFUSING—CHEESE LABELLED "UNAPPROACHABLE."
Miss PHYLLIS WARNER, 57, Clarendon Road, Holland Park, W. THROWN OUT—TIGHTS AFTER TITLE.
J. NIGHTINGALE, 19, Malmesbury Park Road, Bournemouth: GOOD FOR NOTHING—GRANNIE'S OPINION—GIRLS.
ARTHUR FORRESTER, 68, Church Street, Silverdale, Staffs. MOST CONFUSING—CELEBRITIES' SIGNATURES USUALLY.
R. WILLIAMSON, JNR., "Ormidale," Malpas, Newport, Mon.: THE SEASIDE—"DOUBLES" PLAY "SINGLES."
WILLIAM HALL, care of Pool and Sons, Penzance: A LONG PULL—PURGATORY TO PARADISE.
Mr. S. M. BRYDEN, 25, Waterside Street, Kilmarnock, N.B.: GOOD FOR NOTHING—RELIGION MINUS HUMANITY.
Mr. ARCHIE INGLIS, 3?, Ellerslie Street, Johnstone, Scotland: A MONEYED FOOL—"LOAFS": OTHERS "NEED."
Mr. E. W. ELPHICK, 9, George Street, Huntingdon: IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENT—POLITE REFUSAL.
Mr. J. J. MAGUIRE, Long Room, Custom House, Belfast MISTAKEN IDENTITY—APPREHENSION UNDER MISAPPREHENSION.
Mrs. L. JONES, 21, Quorn Street, Edge Lane, Liverpool: A LONG PULL—PESSIMIST'S FACE USUALLY.

50 PRIZEWINNERS of 10/- Each.

ABBOTT, G., 78, Corrance Road, Brixton, S.W.
ATTRILL, W. H., 43, Hunny Hill, Newport, I.W.
BEST, C. E., "Likoma," Talbot Hill, Bournemouth.
CARSON, L., 59, Argyle Road, Preston.
CAVE, W., Sedgebrook Cottage, Brampton, Northampton.
COLEMAN, H., R.G.A., Sergts' Mess, Clarence Bks., Portsmouth.
COOK, J., 39, Hawke Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.
COOPER, C., 124, Knightsbridge, S.W.
COTTEW, S. C., 3, Lutiner Road, Eastbourne, Midhurst, Sussex.
CROSSLAND, Mrs. B., 8, Sawdon Road, Sheffield.
DAVEY, Mrs., 63, Alexandra Road, Southend-on-Sea.
DEANE, Mrs. A., 230, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.
DICKSON, A., 46, Montrose Terrace, Edinburgh.
ENGLAND, E., 58, Foxhill Street, Liverpool.
ENGLEDEW, T., 127, Tynemouth Road, Walthamstow.
EVISON, G. T., Tattershall Bridge, Lincoln.
FALCONER, L., 163, Aitkenhead Road, Glasgow.
FOSTER, P. B., 3, Reginald View, Leeds.
FRASER, C., care of Mr. A. Wood, Whitehall Chambers, Colmore Row, Birmingham.
GIBBON, F. P., 93, Mountain Ash Road, Abercynon.
GOFFIN, R. E., Greenhills View, Aylsham Road, Norwich.
HARRIS, P. E., Lawrenny, Victory Road, Clacton.
HAWKER, G., Braidley, Braidley Road, Bournemouth.
HAYES, F., 127, Lavender Sweep, S.W.
HESFORD, Mrs. A., 72, Alexandra Road, Wimbledon.
HOLMES, W., 248, Lytham Road, Blackpool.
HUNT, G. A., 71, Park Road, Ilford, Essex.
JENKINS, S. H., Fern Villa, Church Road, Leckhampton, Cheltenham.
JOSS, Mrs. W., 17, Ridley Villas, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
KENNING, Mrs. E., 66, Aston Road North, Birmingham.
KIRKBY, EDGAR, 185, Norwich Road, Ipswich.
LE GRAND, CHEV., Mus. Dir., "Arcadians" Co., Pavilion, Barmouth.
LIVINGSTONE, W., Blantyre, Salisbury Gardens, Belfast.
LYNER, A., Queen's Head Hotel, Geller Street, Chester.
MABBOTT, Mrs. F. M., 98, Ansthorpe Road, Cross Gates, Leeds.
McDONALD, W., 8, Cornwall Road, Bishopston, Bristol.
MILLARD, J. G., 51, Dame Street, Dublin.
MORRISON, A., 43, Gairbraid Street, Maryhill, Glasgow.
PAGAN, W., Fir Tree House, Shadwell Lane, Leeds.
PAGE, Miss B., Lymington, Alfred Road, Gravesend.
PALMER, W., 9, Hill Street, Runcorn.
PARSONS, C., Betteville, Pans Lane, Devizes.
PEARCE, A. W., 1, Argyle Avenue, Eastville, Bristol.
PEASE, Mrs. M., 112, Elmsleigh Road, Wandsworth.
SANDERS, B. R., 148, Grafton Street, Mile End Road, E.
SHACKLETON, W., Town Hall Chas., Victoria Square, Leeds.
SMALLMAN, C., 23, South Street, Torry, Torquay, Devon.
WALKER, R. C., 3, Jessamine Cottages, Hartsland Road, Sevenoaks.
WOOD, S. R., 231, Knights Hill, West Norwood, S.E.
WRIGHT, T. P., Frith Bank, Frith Road, Dover.
McAusland, H. A. S., 7, Bridge-ave., Hammersmith.
Shooter's Hill, Woolwich.
McConnell, F. A., East Thorpe, Mirfield, Yorks.
Macphail, P., 39, Alexandra-rd., Upper Norwood, S.E.
Matthews, D., 33, Mayfield-st., Port Talbot, Glam.
Miller, J., 135, Ashmore-rd., Paddington, W.
Neill, J., 8, Harewood-st., Middlesbrough.
Newman, S., Grenville, Longfleet-rd., Poole.
Noole, E., Bubwith, Selby, E. Yorks.
Parker, F., Ninesanks School, Whitfield, Northd.
Peach, T., Newstead Abbey, Nottingham.
Phws, Mrs. F., Cymylan Valley, Anglesey.
Potter, H., 11, Penton-st., Pentonville, N.
Price, G. S., 2, College-ave., Rhos, Colwyn Bay.
Patterson, Mrs. E. M., 5e, Assaye Quarters, Goojerat Bks., Colchester.
Prentice, A., 30, Young-st., Wishaw, N.B.
Rayment, A., 17, Hallford-st., Essex-rd., N.
Richardson, T., Findon Hill, Sacriston, Durham.
Riley, W., 15, Cedmus-st., Everton, Liverpool.
Russell, D., Brean Down, Dudley.
Reeves, T., Blarney, Nowlands-ave., Southampton.
Robinson, Miss M., 5, Bower-rd., Harrogate, Yorks.
Sturgess, Miss L., Grocer, etc., Hornings-low-st., Burton-on-Trent.
Stone, S. J., 101, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, S.W.
Spearing, W. E., Rosemore, Wellshot Drive, Catabu-lang, N.B.
Shaw, K., 19, Worcester-st., Gateshead-on-Tyne.
Simpson, C., 197, Farringdon-rd.-buildings, E.C.
Smith, S.A., 73, Fisherton-st., Salisbury.
Stone, A., 93, Nicholas-st., New North-rd., London.
Sykes, W. H., 197, Milner-rd., Selly Park, Birmingham.
Slater, T., Longford-tce., Holyhead, Wales.
Smith, Mrs., Grenfell, Blenheim-rd., Caversham, Reading.
Smith, J. B., 378, Aylestone-rd., Leicester.
Smith, J., 8x, Bebington-rd., New Ferry, Ches.
Trethewick, S., 5, St. Mary's-tce., Truro, Cornwall.
Taylor, W. J., 30, Morleston-st., Derby.
Vincent, Miss L., 13, Clencarne-rd., Earl's Court, S.W.
Vaughan, A., 37, Aspen-grove, Liverpool.
Watson, G., 48, Freemantle-rd., Cotham, Bristol.
Wilkins, R. J., Brynderw, New-rd., Llanelly.
Wood, R. H., 25, Millais-buildings, Westminster, S.W.

Selection from List of 4,000 Special Prizes.

Galbraith, M., 39, Sycamore-st., High Town, Manchester.
Gale, S. E., Church-st., Lacock.
Gallop, C. C., Duckhampton, Christchurch.
Galt, T. J., 25, Railway-rd., King's Lynn.
Gamison, J. E. N., 45, Barry-rd., East Dulwich.
Gardner, W. D., R.G.A., 79, Monson-rd., New Cross, S.E.
Gardner, H., 14, Audley-rd., Hendon, N.W.
Gardner, A., 200, Avenue-rd., Acton, W.
Gardner, E., 191, Eccles New-rd., Salford, Manchester.
Garland, R., 20, Sheet-st., Windsor.
Garland, J., 12, Ardwick-tce., Ardwick, Manchester.
Garment, Mrs. Q., 4, Oring-rd., Chichester.
Garner, R. C., The Pavilion, Ravensthorpe, Yorkshire.
Garnett, T., 36, Buckingham-street, Holderness-rd., Hull.
Garrett, Jas., 97, St. Stephen-st., Salford, Manchester.
Garrett, H., 58, Mount Stuart-sq., Cardiff.
Garrod, T., 30, Sheen-grove, Barnsbury, N.
Garrod, G. E., 15, Bury-ave., Manley Park, Manchester.
Garscadden, A., 2, Hampden-tce., Mount Florida, Glasgow.
Gates, A., 186, Wanstead Park-rd., Ilford.
Gates, G., Ashlea, Staines-rd., Bedfont.
Gates, I., 373, Hollington Old-rd., Rawtenstall, Manchester.
Ganster, S., 69, Mare-st., Hackney, N.E.
Geddes, R., 126, French-st., Glasgow, E.
Geddes, W., 1, Balmoral-place, Edinburgh.
George, R. A. J., 68, Hunter-st. Docks, Cardiff.
George T., 69, Robert-st., Manselton, Swansea.
George, Syd., 39, Spencer-rd., Wealdstone.
George, A. J., Market Lavington Brickworks, Devizes.

LIST OF 100 5s. PRIZE-WINNERS. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 43.

tle, Mrs. C., 16, Willoughby-avenue, Lenton, Notts.
ate, C. G., 9, Poona-rd., Tunbridge Wells.
oomfield, E. E., Lyndhurst, Hants.
ines, C. T., 71, Castle Gate, Newark-on-Trent.
hop, Bessie, 22, Bedford-rd., St. Ives, Cornwall.
ckshaw, F., 154, Gravelly Hill North, Birmingham.
dge, H. G., 25, Melrose-ave., Cricklewood, N.W.
own, H. E., c/o J. R. Turner, Gothic Cottage, East Ruston, Norfolk.
own, R., Longford-ave., Southall.
rgess, Mrs. F., 16, King's-rd., Peckham, S.E.
rter, J. A., c/o 55, Sugden-rd., Worth'g.
rter, Flora, Chase Side, Rickmansworth.
gg, C., 9, Cannon-st.-north, Bolton.
ugh, J. H., 38, Karslake-rd., Pennylane, Liverpool.
ves, W., 176, Battersea Park-rd., S.W.
s, A., 47, St. Margarets-rd., East Twickenham.
adband, Mrs. G., 163, Lowerhouse-lane, Burnley, Lancs.
le, P. H., 2, Dorset Cottages, Sun-lane, Gravesend.
venport, R., 119, Queen's-rd., Blackburn, Lancs.
y, H. R., 16, Bourne-rd., Freemantle, Southampton.
Davidson, Miss J. P., 85, Main-rd., Intake, Sheffield.
De Leon, Miss F., 28, Kelvin-rd., Highbury, N.
Downer, F., Officers' Steward 2nd, H.M.S. "Tisgard," Portsmouth.
Ellmers, J. A., 55, Barlborough-st., New Cross, S.E.
Farrar, R., 102, Harrogate-rd., Leeds.
Flower, J. H. H., District Engineer's Office, L.B.S.C.R., East Croydon Station, Surrey.
Foster, R. E., The Grocery Stores, Newark, Notts.
Fea, A., South Lodge, Pinner.
Frost, C. T., Westmoreland House, Cotswold-rd., Bristol.
George, W. H., 5, Wingfield-st., Aberfan, South Wales.
Gibson, Mrs. B. A., 166, Fleeming-rd., Walthamstow.
Green, G., 125, York-rd., Bury St. Edmunds.
Hack, Ada M. B., 24, Milton-rd., Swindon, Wilts.
Hall, W., c/o Pool and Son, Penzance.
Harding, T., 9, Gloucester-st., Malmesbury, Wilts.
Heming, H. S., 50, Whitehall Park-rd., Chiswick, W.
Hill, J., Soldiers' Home, Bordon, Hants.
Holland, S., 82, Northcote-rd., Clapham Junc., S.W.
Holmes, C., 21, Hereford-rd., Wavertree, Liverpool.
Hobley, E., Paul-st., Shepton Mallet.
Hudson, A., Deane Cottage, Topcliffe, Thirsk.
Hooper, H., 87, Somerset-rd., Hyde Park, Doncaster.
Hughes, J. S., 42, Eastgate-row, Chester.
Innes, Miss, 387, Unthank-rd., Norwich.
James, Mrs. M. A., 14, Mansel-st., Port Talbot, Glam.
Johns, W., 124, Northgate-st., Chester.
Johnson, Miss B., 99, Trinity-st., Norwich.
Jones, Miss M., 38, Nolton-st., Bridgend, Glam.
Jones, Mrs. P., Downington, Lechlade, Glos.
Kemp, P., 16, Elms-rd., Aldershot.
Kenworthy, W., Brick Mill Cottage, Mossley, Manchester.
Knox, Mrs. A., 60, Richard Cooper-st., Goole, Yorks.
Lewis, A., 29, Rooke-st., Peel Green, Barton, Lancs.
Long, W., Provender Manor, Faversham, Kent.
Lovett, W. A., 129, Elderfield-rd., Lower Clapton, N.E.
Marchant, M. R., 126, Merton Hall-rd., Wimbledon, S.W.
Massey, H. W., Jeweller, St. Edmund-st., Weymouth.
Mell, J., 43, Dalston-lane, Hackney.
Miller, J., Confectioner, Bournemouth.
Mudditt, F. H., 153, Back Howden-rd., North Shields.
Macfarlane, Nurse H. C., Brook Hospital

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Editor, and his special staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. In deciding prizes, originality and aptness will be taken into account. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 250 and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed ——— & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date ——— sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.

4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.

5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, August 20th.

6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

7. The Editor's decision on any matter in dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Complete List of 1,000 Prize-winners of 2/6 each, and of all other Prize-winners in the above Competition can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Prophetic.

Kempton, with its Greenwood Handicap, is perhaps the most important meeting of the week, and were I confident that F. Hartigan would run

ROMEO

for the race named, I should put him up as the best thing of the week. The course and the distance will, however, equally suit his stable companion, Grey Barbarian, and as the price of the latter would probably be a better one, he may be the stable "pea." To-day (Wednesday) also, VARAVIL for the Bedfont Plate and KHERI for the International T.Y.O. Plate should be returned winners. For to-morrow,

WILLAURA

should prove the best thing of the week in the Round Course Welter. GLORVINA can win the Maiden T.Y.O. Plate, and WHITE MAGIC the St. James's Stakes.

At Redcar (to-day),

DAN RUSSEL

looks "extra" for the Produce Stakes in the probable absence of The Tetrarch. BAS BLEU is likely to win the Coatham Handicap, and DROPWORT the Kirkleatham Plate. To-morrow, SERENITY can win the Wilton Maiden Plate, and LIGHT BRIGADE the Breeders' Produce Stakes.

At Windsor, on Friday, WILLAURA may be kept for the Castle Handicap, and, if so, will win. CAVOUR can take the Manor Maiden, and BELLECHASE the Clewer Plate; whilst, with a run,

HAPPY WARRIOR

would look something like a good thing for the Club T.Y.O. Plate. On Saturday, CHANCERY, if not in the meantime gaining a penalty, should win the Meadow Welter; the Slough Handicap should go to GOLD FISH, and the Flying Handicap to MAUVE CABIN.

H. DIAMOND'S STEWARDS' CUP SWEEP.

Our representative attended at the British Consulate at Lucerne on the 4th instant, and witnessed the despatch of cheques to the three principal winners in Mr. H. Diamond's Stewards' Cup Sweep, the envelopes being sealed with the Consulate Stamp. The three cheques were as follows:—(1) £500, 1st prize, to E. M. Hughes, Tan-Lan, Bethesda, N. Wales; (2) £100, 2nd prize, to W. C. Turtle, Knights, *via* Germiston, Transvaal; (3) £50 3rd prize, to E. Rossiter, 40, Ferntower Road, Newington Green, London, N.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith.

"JOHN BULL" FOOTBALL CUP SWEEP.—A. J. S. (Liverpool) AND OTHERS.—Yes, Messrs. Smallman and Terry, of Geneva, *are* entitled to use this description of their Football Cup Sweep, which, as in the case of Mr. O'Brien's "John Bull" Derby Sweep, will be carried out under the personal supervision of the Editor of this journal. He will also nominate the recipients of the £1,500 which, as in the case of the Derby Sweep, is to be set aside for charities—the guaranteed prizes amounting to £15,000—a regular football "beano."

TOTALISATOR (Lucerne).—S.I.A (Abingdon).—Unless you can ascertain from the Post Office that the crossed postal order passed through the firm's banking account, you cannot expect them to recognise your claim.

A. F. SMALLMAN (Geneva).—A. D. (Peckham).—We presume you mean Mr. A. F. Smallman, of Geneva, who is a gentleman of the highest integrity.

STANLEY WEBB'S SYNDICATE (Copenhagen).—COLONEL.—We agree with what you say as to the Result Sheet you sent us, and with your opinion that the Sweepstake "is another dubious one." See our reply to T. H. (Bedford), which appeared in our issue of August 2, in reference to the other firm you mention.

THE BRITISH INVESTMENT AGENCY (Geneva).—F. H. (Lewes).—We are obliged for the Result Sheet you have forwarded to us, which purports to contain particulars of tickets which have drawn the first, second and third in the Stewards' Cup, but which, according to the envelope you send us, was posted in Bolton two hours and a quarter before the race was run. No names are given in the Sheet, and we can only repeat our advice to have nothing to do with these people.

"SPORTING PROFIT" (Birsfelden).—J. E. T. (Stockton-on-Tees).—We have frequently warned our readers against these people. We note you communicated with the gentleman who, according to their Result Sheet, drew "Lorenzo" in the Manchester Cup Sweep, and we are obliged to you for forwarding us his reply, in which he states he was not a subscriber.

PREMIER SPORT SYNDICATE (Milan).—R. T. (Parsons Green).—We are obliged for particulars of this firm's St. Leger Sweep. We note that "the prices offered are all net." We suggest you should not be caught in their net.

"Gale's Special"

The "SPECIAL" that Guarantees Your Success.

"Fewer Selections and more Winners than any of its rivals." *Vide The Sportsman.*

PROOF! PROOF! PROOF!

During the month of July alone "Gale's Special" gave no less than Forty-Five Winners, including Green Cap (8-1); Buckstead (7-1); Sholebroke (5-1); Kadine (9-2); Diadumenos (11-1); Farakabad (10-1); Pictorial (7-1); and Potency (10-1); whilst

Recent Wire Triumphs have included

GREAT SURPRISE (5 pts.) on June 7th; **AMADOR** (6 pts.) on June 9th; **DALLINGTON** (8 pts.) on June 13th; **RIVOLI** (14 pts.) on June 17th; **SOLPRUFE** (8 pts.) on June 24th; **CASSIM** (12½ pts.) on June 26th; **BUCKSTEAD** (7 pts.) on July 4th; **SHOLEBROKE** (5 pts.) on July 11th; **DIADUMENOS** (10 pts.) on July 16th; and **POTENCY** (10 pts.) on July 22nd. Sent to wire subscribers on the dates named. Post Office proofs produced if necessary.

Next Monday's issue of "Gale's Special," published at 2/6, will be sent post free in plain sealed envelope upon receipt of 1/- P.O. or Stamps to all readers of "John Bull" enclosing this paragraph.

Gale's Course Wire Selections.

The Editor's "Extra" Service.

Subscribers to this service of "EXTRA" COURSE WIRES will receive the next selection sent out after the receipt of their remittance, but in no circumstances can these wires be despatched earlier than 12-30: at the same time, for the convenience of subscribers, the Editor will be pleased to wire their instructions direct to their Commission Agents.

Terms: A Guaranteed Winner for Two Guineas.

Never more than One Selection Wired.

Commencing with June 3rd, to August 6th inclusive the Editor's "Extra" Service of Course Wires have given forty-six selections, out of which twenty-two were successful, and while the remaining twenty-four were unsuccessful, no less than twelve of these either ran second or third, the successful selections being **Svetec** (6-1); **New York** (7-2); **Montmartre** (3-1); **Dallington** (8-1); **Lomond** (3-1); **Prue** (5-2); **Solprufe** (8-1); **Watermark** (3-1); **Primrose Knight** (5-2); **Green Cap** (8-1); **Courageous** (4-6); **Oiseau Bleu** (7-2); **Journeyman** (5-4); **Fairy King** (2-5); **At Last** (5-4); **Diadumenos** (10-1); **Potency** (10-1); **Fairy King** (1-3); **Loch Lochy** (7-4); **Augur** (11-4); **Hamerton** (evens); and **Ukraine** (11-10).

It is worthy of special comment that these selections worked on the System we recommend, commencing with a £5 stake, have shown a net profit of UPWARDS OF TWELVE HUNDRED POUNDS, and all subscribers receiving Courageous and Fairy King (twice) also received OISEAU BLEU, AT LAST, and LOCH LOCHY entirely free of charge, as odds-on winners are never taken into consideration, and as a proof that our patrons so far have been more than satisfied we may add that we have not lost a single subscriber who has taken advantage of this service.

A Guaranteed Winner for Two Guineas

(Never more than One Selection wired)

or

Six Guaranteed Winners for Ten Guineas.

It is a fact well known to-day that exclusive information with regard to profitable investment on the Turf can only be obtained by those who have access to the inside track of knowledge of everything appertaining to the projects of the various stables; but we offer you an equal chance with every other sportsman to make your speculations on the Turf gold-bearing and successful, provided you are prepared to embrace the opportunities we hold out to you.

No Business of any description with Minors.

Note that our ONLY address is:—

"Gale's Special,"

Ruskin Buildings, Birmingham

Telegraphic Address: "WINNERS, Birmingham."

Result of the Draw for THE TOTALISATOR 5/- GRAND SWEEP on the STEWARDS' CUP, drawn July 23rd :—

WINNER RECEIVES £901.

Paid to A. E. de Sousa, Esq., 44, Colby Rd., Gipsy Hill, London, S.E.

SECOND HORSE RECEIVES £225 5 0.

Paid to Lord Auckland, The Burrow, Howard Road, Bournemouth.

THIRD HORSE RECEIVES £112 12 6.

Paid to Sir W. Mieville, 68, Wilbury Road, Hove, Sussex.

17 STARTERS RECEIVE £19 17 6 EACH.

33 NON-STARTERS RECEIVE £20 9 6 EACH

Extract from "JOHN BULL," August 2nd, 1913.

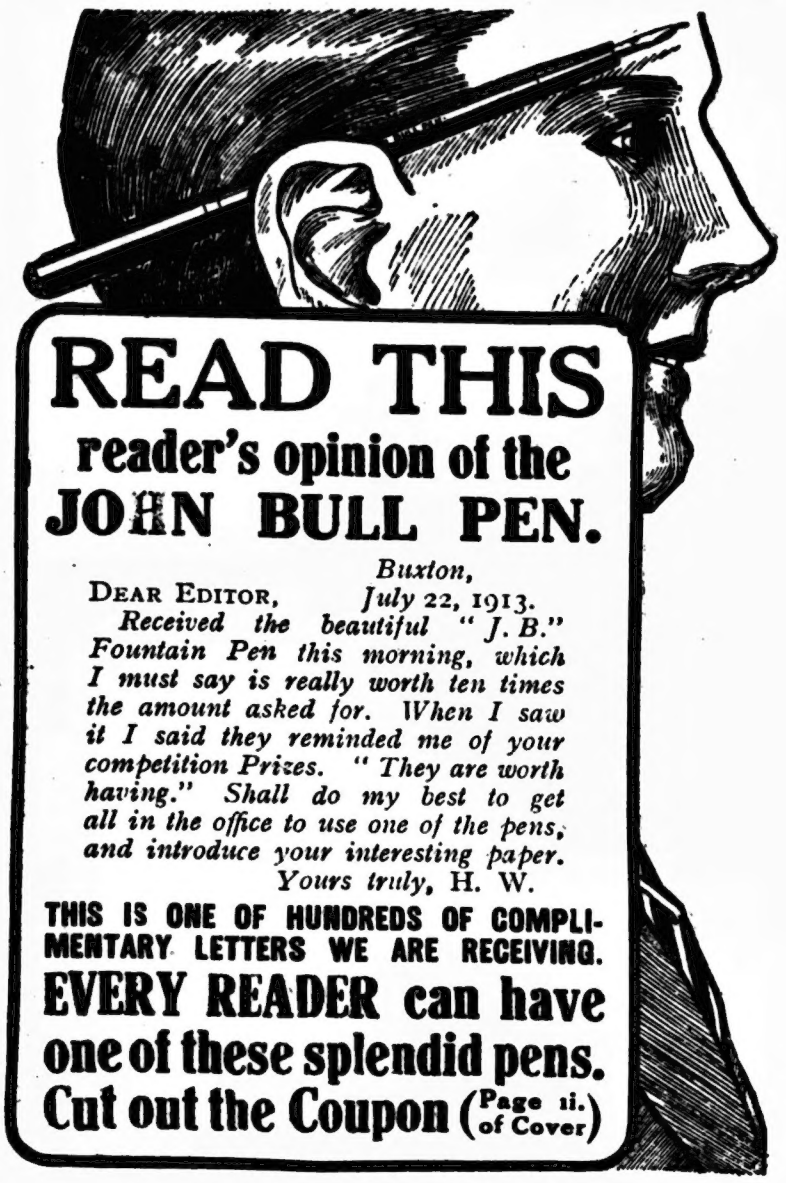
Totalisator, Lucerne, Stewards' Cup Sweep. The draw for the above took place at the offices of the Totalisator, in Lucerne, on the 23rd ult. In response to an invitation, we sent our representative to witness the draw, and he satisfied himself that everything was conducted with the same scrupulous honesty and business-like method that has always been observed in everything connected with this well-known firm. As usual, the draw was entirely under the control of the Press representatives. Our man himself drew the names of the horses from the wheel, and against each horse drawn, before the name had even been seen, a ticket number was drawn from another wheel by the representative of the *Era*. The two were then laid together on the table and duly registered—one representing a ticket and the other a prize. The names and addresses of the 53 prize-winners were verified with the books and the actual correspondence, which, at great trouble, are admirably kept.

Terms, &c., for ST. LEGER, CESAREWITCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, and MANCHESTER NOVEMBER HANDICAP, free on application to

THE TOTALISATOR,

LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND. Established 1908.

Managing Director, H. CULLERNE-BOWN.



READ THIS

reader's opinion of the JOHN BULL PEN.

Buxton,
July 22, 1913.

DEAR EDITOR,

Received the beautiful "J. B." Fountain Pen this morning, which I must say is really worth ten times the amount asked for. When I saw it I said they reminded me of your competition Prizes. "They are worth having." Shall do my best to get all in the office to use one of the pens, and introduce your interesting paper.

Yours truly, H. W.

THIS IS ONE OF HUNDREDS OF COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS WE ARE RECEIVING.

EVERY READER can have one of these splendid pens. Cut out the Coupon (Page ii. of Cover)

GOODWOOD RESULT.

1.—LORD ANNANDALE.
£500
E. M. HUGHES,
Tan Lan, Bethesda,
N. Wales.

2.—POOR BOY.
£100
W. C. TURTLE,
Knights, Via
Germiston, Transvaal.

3.—CIGAR.
£50
E. ROSSITER,
40, Ferntower, Rd., Newington Green, London, N.

THE FOLLOWING DREW STARTERS, AND EACH RECEIVES £10.

Harmonicon	R. Clegg, 724, Manchester Road, Castleton, Lancs.
White Star	F. Morgan, 4, Silver Street, Tiverton.
Daly's	A. Brown, Shires Row, Stanley Lane End, Wakefield.
Braxted	W. Ansdell, 76, Boundary Street, Liverpool.
Tuxedo	Mrs. Wrixon, 16, Lewis Road, Southall, Middlesex.
Radiant	Miss K. Cooke, 34, Queen's Road, Beckenham, Kent.
Giant	Mr. Harrow, 4, Parliament Street, London, S.E.
Wrack	R. Collins, 4, Fairfield, Havant.
Mediator	C. Leeson, 171, Main Road, Darnall, Sheffield.
Canonite	G. Bradbrook, 47, Cecil Road, Gravesend, Kent.
Research	Miss Shrimpton, c/o 7, Ryecroft Street, Fulham, S.W.
Zebre	Murray Brown, 9, Missenden Road, Chesham, Bucks.
Sir Martin	H. J. Lamb, 4, Cooper Street, St. Helens, Lancs.
Castleton.....	C. H. Russell, 3, Argyle Street, Cymmer, Porth, Glam.
Sondrio	H. Simmons, 14, Adelaide Street, Parkeston, Essex.
Wise Symon	J. R. Thomas, 56, Kenry Street, Tonypandy, S. Wales.
Mountain Finch..	M. Holgate, Napier Arms, Gillingham, Kent.

"John Bull" said, February 1st :—

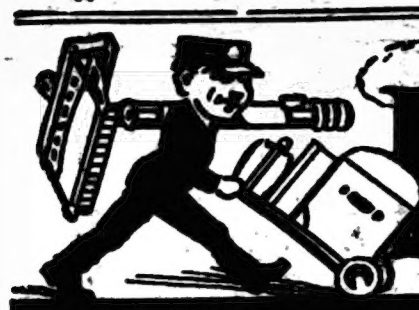
"We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and aboveboard."

"Mirror of Life" said, June 7th, :—

"We can certify as to the equitable way in which they are carried out, and of the fairness in every particular of Mr. H. Diamond's sweepstakes."

H. DIAMOND, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

Letter Postage, 2½d. Postcards, 1d.



The HOLIDAYS

Whether you are preparing to spend a quiet time on the seashore or are hurrying off for a game of Golf or a motor trip, if you want complete holiday comfort don't forget to pack a "CLEMAK" in your trunk.

It gives a close, comfortable shave in marvellously quick time, no trouble to clean, no bars, plates, or screws to remove, and no adjustment required. Acquire the CLEMAK HABIT and your shaving becomes a pleasure.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

If you are using one of the old-fashioned open-blade razors you should get a CLEMAK at once. It cannot pull the beard, prevents soreness and irritation. Impossible to cut yourself—you *must* shave at the correct angle.

The "Clemak" is the ONLY *first-class* Safety Razor on the market which is sold at a *fair price*. The blades can be stropped and will last indefinitely.

CLEMAK RAZOR and Seven Blades 5/-
NEW MODEL Set and Twelve Blades . . . 7/6
COMBINATION OUTFIT, Stropping Machine, Velvet-hide Strop, with Clemak and Twelve Blades 10/6

"MADE AS WELL and SHAVES AS WELL AS ANY GUINEA RAZOR."

SEND FOR BOOKLET.

Of all STORES, CUTLERS, &c., or post free from the
CLEMAK RAZOR CO., 17, Billiter St., London, E.C.

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